PLAN BELIZE 2.0

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— The Truth Shall Make You Free —

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BNTU THREATENS SCHOOL SHUTDOWN

PSU Promises Pain... A Nation Held Hostage

"Let me just say that the BNTU has its eyes on the prize, 8.5, and that government needs to realize that we ain't playing no game. You think we noh got no leverage. Teachers smart. Worry about reopening. So drag it out. Worry about reopening."

– Nadia Caliz, BNTU President

"We shall start applying force and power and pain"

– Dean Flowers, PSU President

■ Pg.2

Releases Debunking UDP Lies and Misinformation ■ Inside

PM for Belize in France

"Our Ocean, Our Future"

■ Pg.7

HONORING RALPH FONSECA

"Unshakable & Wise"

■ Pg. 2

Belize-Taiwan Launch

Phase 2 Micro-Entrepreneurs Project

■ Pg. 2

Grant ceremony

MAFSE, IDB, & Ministry of Finance Commence Support

549 Farmers Inclusive of 119 Women Farmers

■ Pg. 8

Congratulations Class of 2025!

BNTU THREATENS SCHOOL SHUTDOWN

PSU Promises Pain... A Nation Held Hostage

Following the Unions' refusal of the Government of Belize's second proposal in regard to a salary raise and unfreezing of increments, the presidents of both the Public Service Union and the Belize National Teachers Union issued bold threats on national television. While the threats were directed to the government, it cannot be lost on anyone that any actions taken by the Unions affect the people, and not the Briceño administration.

The government of Belize has actually agreed to the requests by the Unions but is stating realistically that the demand cannot be met immediately but must be phased. And there must be discussion of increments based on performance and also pension reform. Currently, Belize is the only country in Central American and the Caribbean whose public service does not contribute to their pension. The Government of Belize pays 100% of public officers' pensions, amounting to approximately $115 MILLION yearly.

In addition, the government of Belize has proposed that the pensionable age be increased to 60, rather than the current 55. Only Belize and Guyana, in Central American and the Caribbean, offer that age for pension. All other countries provide pensions at 60 or even 65.

The Unions have refused to even entertain a discussion on pension reform, and in response PSU President Dean Flowers proclaimed, "we will die for our pensions." It is not clear if he was speaking for himself, or for all public officers on the subject of death for pensions.

Last week, when the subject of the demands by Unions was raised to Financial Secretary Joseph Waight, he made it clear that the economy could not support what was being asked. He was also clear that to meet that demand could very likely result in the government having to impose new taxes. Those taxes would have to be borne by ALL workers, not just the 16,000 public officers and teachers.

Prime Minister John Briceño has spoken publicly on the issue, but with no condemnation of the stance taken by public officers and teachers. He has expressed on multiple occasions the rights of all persons to protest and has even said that he wishes he could grant every request not only by teachers and public officers, but by every Belizean worker. "it is simply that the country cannot afford to meet those demands at this time," the Prime Minister has said.

Currently the wage bill of public officers stands at $584 MILLION, for an average public officer/teacher salary of close to $37,000 yearly, double what is earned in the private sector. The teachers are asking for an addition $100 MILLION years, in addition to the $115 MILLION in free pension already paid on their behalf by GOB.

As we go to press, the next moves of the Unions are unclear. Meanwhile, the Government stands ready to go back to the negotiating table, and has called on union leadership to desist from instigating civil unrest and issuing threats which serve no real purpose.

RALPH FONSECA

A COLOSSUS, AN INDOMITABLE FORCE IN BELIZE'S POLITICS

1st Timothy - "I Have Fought The good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

As Honorable Ralph Fonseca faced the final curtain in his passing, politics stopped at the water's edge, as members of the political divide filed into the Divine Mercy Church to pay respect to the "Colossus that bestrode the narrow world of politics." (Dean Barrow)

Honourable Francis Fonseca, on behalf of the Prime Minister, John Briceño, and the Government of Belize, remembered Ralph Fonseca as a man who shaped Belize's political and economic journey, leaving behind a distinct mark on the country's national story. He left behind a chapter of determination and service.

That chapter was etched in his calling by a visionary and one of the founders of the 'Peaceful Constructive Belizean Revolution', the Leader Emeritus, Father of the Nation, the Right Honourable, George Cadle Price. The world of politics and economics was shifting and there was a need for new soldiers for the revolution to contribute to the Jewel's vision of the New World Order. A man of considerable talent, Ralph took up arms in the fight for the People's United Party's political revolution. As Senator Christopher Coye, characterized Ralph as a Master Teacher not just in economics, world politics and technology, though those were his fields of expertise, but in the deeper lessons of life - character, perseverance and what it means to succeed in life. He believed that change and evolution are not only inevitable but necessary for improvement and growth.

Although, Ralph Fonseca whetted his appetite in Belizean politics by entering the 1984 general elections and losing to the attorney-at-law Dean Barrow, Ralph Fonseca's contribution to national politics and the revolutionary economic order was in the PUP's term in office from 1998-2008. Belize had entered the era of the New World Order of Globalization. The country's preferential access to the traditional export markets was drying up and Belize needed a new economic direction to compete in the global framework of Globalization. During the Rt. Honourable Said Musa two administrations with Ralph Fonseca as Minister of Finances with the responsibility of investment, they introduced the economic model of "Growth Economics" which was intended to develop Belize's economy through the privatization of assets and encourage foreign investment. To Musa, he was adept at negotiations with international financial institutions and was comfortable with the globalized world of high finances with which modern Belize was now of necessity having to engage. The words of Francis Fonseca reverberated within the wall of the Divine Mercy about the various programs he championed to "modernize Belize's infrastructure, expanded access to health, education and housing. "Importantly, he recognized more than 25 years ago, the importance of energy independence and that the cost of energy was a major constraint to the country's development. In the face of strong criticism and activism, he championed the cause of hydroelectric power.

Continued on page 5

Belize-Taiwan Launch Phase 2 for Micro-Entrepreneurs Project Celebrating Economic Empowerment Milestone

June 12, 2025 - The Ministry of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs, in collaboration with the Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (Taiwan ICDF), held the closing ceremony for Phase 1 and the official launch of Phase 2 of the Increasing Economic Power for Micro- Entrepreneurs

Project this morning at the Oasis Hidden Hall in Belmopan.

The event marked a significant milestone in Belize's ongoing efforts to enhance economic inclusion and resilience among underserved populations, particularly women and small-scale entrepreneurs. **The initiative, which provides business training, mentorship, and startup support to micro- entrepreneurs, aims to strengthen livelihoods and promote sustainable economic growth.**

In attendance at the event were several key officials, including Mrs. Adele Catzim-Sanchez, Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of Human Development; Ms. Indira Usher from the Ministry of Foreign

Continued on page 8

The Belize Times

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EDITORIAL

BRINGING THE PAIN

"We shall start applying force and power and pain on the Briceño administration
– PSU President Dean Flowers

The Unions have used raw emotion to their advantage, both on social media and in the mainstream media which of late has bought into the concept of 'sensationalism for likes, to hell with the truth.' Public officers and teachers have suffered and sacrificed, they say. The image is painted of these poor, victimized and oppressed persons struggling to put food on the table, to meet their bills and to make ends meet. The viewing and listening public is besieged by the message of teachers giving their last dollar to feed poor children, and paying all the schools' bills out of their pockets, and public officers who give their all to the country, slaving at their desks, hours with no end, collectively making everything happen in Belize.

We are pummelled by the messages of how much these public officers and teachers have been 'chanced' by government, forced to take a 10% wage cut during COVID, and even to have their increments frozen during COVID. Oh, the travesty. Oh, the injustice. And hysteria has fed hysteria, with no place for facts or reason.

Nobody wants to hear about increments and raises based on performance. Nobody wants to hear about pension reform. Nobody wants to remember where we were during COVID, when ONLY public officers and teachers had secure jobs. Nobody wants to hear that public officers and teachers, with the exception of frontline personnel, had it okay during COVID. They were at home, no banks breathing down their necks, no transportation expenses, no school expenses, salaries coming in like clockwork. Nobody wants to hear about the tens of thousands who really suffered when they lost everything, with NO money coming in. Nobody wants to hear the truth, because we are carried away by the hype.

But they need to listen, because what happens in these days and weeks will have repercussions for all of us – not only the 16,000 public officers and teachers who have apparently sacrificed more than any other worker in Belize, and who do more than any other worker in Belize, and who deserve more than any other worker in Belize.

Teachers and public officers take home an average salary of approximately **$36,000 per annum**. That is the truth. The current annual wage bill for public officers and teachers is **$584 MILLION**. That is the truth.

In addition to that $584 MILLION, teachers and public officers get $115 MILLION annually in pension – 100% paid by government. **Belize is the only country in Central America and the Caribbean where public officers/teachers do not contribute to their own pensions. In the private sector in Belize, where workers receive pensions**, they **ALL** contribute to their pensions. So only public officers and teachers in Belize have that privilege in the entire region.

Add **$584 MILLION** in current wage bill, **$115 MILLION** in FREE PENSION and the **$100 MILLION** now being demanded by teachers and public officers, and the country is looking at **$800 MILLION** annually. To be paid by taxpayers, not by the Prime Minister or any in his administration.

This is a fact. The Unions have accused the government of acting in bad faith. Where is the evidence of that? There is a negotiation underway, and government has offered two different proposals. Even as the first proposal was offered in a cordial meeting, the Unions gave their notice of industrial action. In the midst of negotiations, Unions were blocking roads and busy streets. Government has at no time closed the door on negotiations. Government in fact has convened an extremely high-level team to conduct negotiations. Government has agreed to the salary raise but is asking for it to be phased out for the simple reason that the country cannot afford it in one felt swoop. Where is the bad faith?

Teachers and public officers, in addition to blocking roads and leaving classrooms empty while they sick out, are on the news and airwaves day after day vilifying the government, hyping up the hysteria, personally attacking the Prime Minister and other government leaders, declaring war and most recently, promising to bring pain to the Briceño administration.

This Editorial opened with a bold, stupid and concerning comment from the PSU President, Dean Flowers. He and other Union leaders are threatening pain on the Briceño administration. But this is not personal, not for the Prime Minister or any in his administration. The Prime Minister and his administration have no personal stake in any of this. They are not being prudent in their negotiations with the Unions to punish them. THIS IS NOT PERSONAL.

Blocked roads do not hurt the Prime Minister, or his administration. Closed schools while teachers play unnecessary games don't hurt the Prime Minister or his administration. No action taken by the Unions will personally bring pain to the Prime Minister or to his administration.

What Dean Flowers is really saying, is that they will bring pain to all taxpayers in this country. **Because one thing is quite clear – if the teachers and public officers get everything they demand, and get it NOW, that money will come from increased taxes. There's no other place for it to come from.**

So when Belizeans shout and proclaim support for the Unions without flexibility or thinking it through, remember that we are all in this together. And if the Government decides, to hell with this, let's just give the teachers and public officers everything they want NOW, and GST or some other tax is raised to make it happen, **REMEMBER – we are all in this together. Solidarity Forever.**

EDITORIAL

en Español

CAUSANDO DAÑO

«Empezaremos a aplicar fuerza, poder y dolor al gobierno de Briceño». **- Dean Flowers, presidente de la PSU**

Los sindicatos han usado las emociones a su favor, tanto en las redes sociales como en los medios de comunicación tradicionales que últimamente se han sumado al concepto de «sensacionalismo por 'likes', al diablo con la verdad». Dicen que los funcionarios públicos y los maestros han sufrido y se han sacrificado. Se pinta la imagen de estas personas pobres, victimizadas y oprimidas que luchan para llevar comida a la mesa, pagar sus facturas y llegar a fin de mes. El público que ve y escucha se ve asediado por el mensaje de profesores que dan hasta su último dólar para alimentar a niños pobres y pagan todas las facturas de las escuelas de su propio bolsillo, y de funcionarios públicos que lo dan todo por el país, trabajando sin descanso en sus escritorios, horas y horas sin fin, haciendo colectivamente que todo funcione en Belice.

Nos bombardean con mensajes sobre lo mucho que el Gobierno ha «perjudicado» a estos funcionarios y profesores, obligándoles a aceptar una reducción salarial del 10 % durante el COVID, e incluso a congelar sus incrementos salariales durante el COVID. Oh, qué parodia. Oh, qué injusticia. Y la histeria ha alimentado la histeria, sin dejar lugar a los hechos ni a la razón.

Nadie quiere oír hablar de incrementos y aumentos basados en el rendimiento. Nadie quiere oír hablar de la reforma de las pensiones. Nadie quiere recordar dónde estábamos durante el COVID, cuando SOLO los funcionarios públicos y los profesores tenían puestos de trabajo seguros. Nadie quiere oír que los funcionarios públicos y los profesores, con la excepción del personal de primera línea, lo pasaron bien durante la COVID. Estaban en casa, sin bancos presionándoles, sin gastos de transporte, sin gastos escolares, con salarios que llegaban como un reloj. Nadie quiere oír hablar de las decenas de miles de personas que realmente sufrieron cuando lo perdieron todo, sin ingresos. Nadie quiere oír la verdad, porque nos dejamos llevar por el bombo publicitario.

Pero hay que escuchar, porque lo que ocurra en estos días y semanas tendrá repercusiones para todos nosotros, no solo para los 16 000 funcionarios públicos y profesores que aparentemente han sacrificado más que cualquier otro trabajador en Belice, que hacen más que cualquier otro trabajador en Belice y que merecen más que cualquier otro trabajador en Belice.

Los profesores y los funcionarios públicos se llevan a casa un salario medio de aproximadamente 36 000 dólares al año. Esa es la verdad. La factura salarial anual actual de los funcionarios públicos y los profesores es de 584 millones de dólares. Esa es la verdad.

Además de esos 584 MILLONES, los profesores y los funcionarios públicos reciben 115 MILLONES anuales en concepto de pensiones, pagadas al 100 % por el Gobierno. Belice es el único país de Centroamérica y el Caribe en el que los funcionarios públicos y los profesores no contribuyen a sus propias pensiones. En el sector privado de Belice, donde los trabajadores reciben pensiones, TODOS contribuyen a ellas. Así pues, solo los funcionarios públicos y los profesores de Belice tienen ese privilegio en toda la región.

Si sumamos los 584 millones de dólares de la masa salarial actual, los 115 millones de dólares de pensiones gratuitas y los 100 millones de dólares que ahora exigen los profesores y los funcionarios públicos, el país se enfrenta a un gasto anual de 800 millones de dólares. A cargo de los contribuyentes, no del primer ministro ni de nadie de su administración.

Esto es un hecho. Los sindicatos han acusado al Gobierno de actuar de mala fe. ¿Dónde están las pruebas de ello? Hay una negociación en curso y el Gobierno ha presentado dos propuestas diferentes. A pesar de que la primera propuesta se presentó en una reunión cordial, los sindicatos anunciaron una huelga. En medio de las negociaciones, los sindicatos bloquearon carreteras y calles concurridas. El Gobierno no ha cerrado en ningún momento la puerta a las negociaciones. De hecho, el Gobierno ha convocado a un equipo de muy alto nivel para llevar a cabo las negociaciones. El Gobierno ha aceptado el aumento salarial, pero pide que se aplique de forma gradual por la sencilla razón de que el país no puede permitírselo de una sola vez. ¿Dónde está la mala fe?

Los profesores y los funcionarios públicos, además de bloquear carreteras y dejar las aulas vacías mientras se declaran en huelga, aparecen día tras día en las noticias y en las ondas difamando al Gobierno, avivando la histeria, atacando personalmente al primer ministro y a otros líderes gubernamentales, declarando la guerra y, más recientemente, prometiendo causar daño a la administración Briceño.

Este editorial comenzó con un comentario audaz, estúpido y preocupante del presidente del PSU, Dean Flowers. Él y otros líderes sindicales están amenazando con causar daño a la administración Briceño. Pero esto no es personal, ni para el primer ministro ni para nadie de su administración. El primer ministro y su administración no tienen ningún interés personal en nada de esto. No están siendo prudentes en sus negociaciones con los sindicatos para castigarlos. ESTO NO ES PERSONAL.

Las carreteras bloqueadas no perjudican al primer ministro ni a su administración. El cierre de escuelas mientras los profesores juegan a juegos innecesarios no perjudica al primer ministro ni a su administración. Ninguna medida tomada por los sindicatos causará personalmente problemas al primer ministro ni a su administración.

Lo que Dean Flowers realmente está diciendo es que causarán daño a todos los contribuyentes de este país. Porque una cosa está muy clara: si los profesores y los funcionarios públicos consiguen todo lo que exigen, y lo consiguen AHORA, ese dinero provendrá del aumento de los impuestos. No hay otro lugar del que pueda provenir.

Así que cuando los beliceños griten y proclamen su apoyo a los sindicatos sin flexibilidad ni reflexión, recuerden que estamos todos juntos en esto. Y si el Gobierno decide que al diablo con esto que demos a los profesores y funcionarios públicos todo lo que quieren AHORA, y se suba el GST o algún otro impuesto para que esto sea posible, RECUERDEN: estamos todos juntos en esto. Solidaridad para siempre.

RIVA BATTAM

Tres Leches

Count them – one, two, three leaders of that thing once called the United Democratic Party. It's the craziest thing ever. For Jamal, Tracy and now Hugo to be claiming leadership of the UDP, all at the same time, is like three lame hogs in a mudhole fighting over a lump of…well, you know what. Just when you thought the mess in in that dysfunctional set couldn't get any worse, Hugo emerges from the canefields in the north and declares that he is leader of the UDP – just like that. That boy was definitely out in the sun too long. Even the few UDP faithful left are scratching their heads and wondering how this happened. And if Hugo is interim leader, will he replace Tracy in the House as LOO? And if he doesn't, do we then have to acknowledge Shyne as UDP leader, Hugo as interim UDP leader, and Tracy as Leader of the Opposition? Ain't nobody close to figuring out this puzzle.

Hugo's Skeletons

Hugo Patt is perennially missing. He misses House Meetings, dodges events and hides from attention like he's being chased by Credit Master Systems. Some people think he just prefers to stay far from the drama, but the truth is that he prefers the shadows because he is afraid all his dealings when he was Minister of Lands will come to light. And if he is at the forefront of public attention, people might start asking about acres and acres and acres of prime land that were put into other people's names just before elections. And people might start really digging into the connection between Hugo and that arson that claimed three vehicles on the Marine Parade. And of course, we can't forget a whole bunch of very questionable land deals just before elections in connection to Portico. And then there's the Belizean/Boots Beach land – 2.5 acres for $1000. There's a lot more, and Patt would be much better off hiding in his canefields than trying to ride this dead horse.

Dead duck

So with Jamal legally in control of the UDP, and Hugo flying in like an unguided missile trying to claim the UDP, where does that leave saintly Auntie Tracy? Talk about anti-climactic. Tracy was our own home-grown warrior queen. She came in like a wrecking ball, as cousin Miley would say. She had all the answers. Never mind that she had to sit to give interviews. Never mind that her most active spurts of activity were on Facebook. She was ready to jump on that proverbial chariot, pulled by what would have to be really big, strong horses, and lead the UDP out of the darkness. And then, as quick as you can say 'fainting spell in the House,' she was done. To give the devil his due, Jules picked it up before anybody else. From the beginning he's been saying that Tracy didn't have what it takes to be leader. And then he went straight for the jugular, blasting her for 'fainting' during what was to be her glorious maiden speech in the House. It's nothing personal, Auntie. If your own people believed in you, they wouldn't have had to bring in Hugo as interim leader. And that right there, is the nail in your political coffin. Go rest Auntie. Go rest. Can't have you fainting all over the place.

Dean's Soul

Poor Grampa Dean never gets a break. First his heart was broken as he grieved for his poor Belize, and now his soul is under attack by what is happening in the UDP. How much can that poor man bear? Fun and joke aside, Dean Oliver is a sick, sick man. He is almost singlehandedly responsible for everything happening in the UDP right now. He charted the path to disaster in 2020 by completely mismanaging the economy. He allowed his Ministers to pursue their corrupt agendas because he admitted he knew but had no proof. He orchestrated the ascent of Shyne, the son he abandoned, no doubt out of a sense of guilt. And now he cannot control the monster he created, literally. It is a sad, tragic wonder that Dean Oliver has been allowed to retire with his riches, and with a fake sense of piety, while the country and people deal with the absolute shitshow he left behind. So suck it up, Dean. You and your twisted soul won't get any sympathy here.

RALPH FONSECA
A COLOSSUS, AN INDOMITABLE FORCE IN BELIZE'S POLITICS

Continued from page 2

This was a major initiative in the government's energy policy, that was aggressively pursued by the Said Musa administration with Ralph Fonseca at the economics helm, to hold down the cost of living affected by the high fuel prices. Notwithstanding, the critics and a powerful North American environmental group attempt to stop the project, Belizeans are experiencing the comfort of the availability of electricity within the confines of their homes.

Although the Said Musa/Ralph Fonseca government continues to face criticism and snide remarks over Ralph's introduction of "Growth Economics" the reality is that upon leaving office after losing the general election in 2008, Dean Barrow and the UDP were gifted a financial cushion of over a billion dollars to develop the country and to better the lives of the Belizean people. They failed in doing so. The Standard and Poor's Report of January 2008 before the February election stated: the real economy remains strong, boosted by the emerging oil industry, tourism, and agriculture. The country's economic performance remains the bright spot of Belize's credit story, reflecting the solid growth performance during the last ten years (5.3% on average). Belize's socioeconomic indicators as presented in the 2007 UN Human Development Index (80 out of 177 countries) have improved over the last few years and are now better than those of many regional peers.

Undoubtedly, the Colossus, the indomitable force that bestrode the path of Belize's politics left the country in better stead than he found it in 1998. I must agree with the eulogist Senator Coye, "In politics, they say perception is reality. In life and in truth, perception is not reality. Perception is perception. Life is reality."

By Hilly Bennett

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PUP
LOT, WE WINNING? YES? NO? LET'S SAY YES!
TACOMA
DIDDY, SEH UDP IS MINE, I MEAN DADDY!
THESE PEOPLE EVEN LIE TO THEM SELVES. WITCH PARTY THEM HAVE
RACHOOD

2025 UN Ocean Conference

Prime Minister John Briceño Address to General Assembly Nice, France June 10, 2025

Excellencies, Colleagues,

On behalf of the people of Belize, I proudly welcome the political declaration Our Ocean, Our Future: United for Action. In doing so, I reaffirm our deep and enduring commitment to serving as responsible stewards of the ocean. The ocean is our lifeline—it makes our very existence possible. Every Belizean knows this truth deeply. We honor it each time we recite our national anthem: "Nature has blessed us with wealth untold", "a land by the Carib Sea."

We are custodians of the largest living barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere—the Belize Barrier Reef, second in size only to Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Beyond its beauty, the reef sustains and protects us. It contributes over $1 billion annually to our economy, serves as a nursery for our fisheries, sustains the livelihoods of our fishers, and shields our coastline from storms and hurricanes. We are unwavering in our protection of the Barrier Reef, the Caribbean Sea, and the broader marine and terrestrial environment.

Our commitment to environmental protection is rooted in strong legislation and a pioneering, science-based fisheries management model tailored for our small-scale fisheries. Even before independence, our forebears began building a network of protected areas. Today, that network covers approximately 36 percent of our land and 25 percent of our territorial waters. Belize is fully committed to the global 30x30 goal—and we are on track to exceed it.

Our Petroleum Operations Infinite Moratorium, along with our Blue Economy Development Policy and Maritime Economy Plan, ensures that economic progress remains aligned with sustainable ocean governance. Belize's Blue Economy Model is based on a reciprocal relationship with the ocean. Like our Pacific Island brothers and sisters, we believe that we should take nothing more than we need. And more so, we appreciate intimately that the ocean's generosity is not limitless. Unbridled exploitative human activities are endangering the ocean, all its resources and all of us who depend on it. Despite Belize's efforts and care for our ocean, we cannot shield ourselves from the consequences of climate change—rising seas, extreme weather, and warming temperatures. Not for lack of will, but because we are not major emitters. In fact, Belize contributes a mere 0.01 percent to global greenhouse gas emissions—and we remain a carbon sink. Yet we have borne disproportionate costs, sinking into debt to recover from disasters we did not cause. **Our story mirrors that of the ocean—always giving, now at risk.**

Marine habitats and species are vanishing at unprecedented rates. Coral reefs have lost nearly half their extent since the 1870s, and without urgent action, most could disappear by 2040, taking countless species with them. But this is not just about life below water—it's about life above it too. The Third United Nations Ocean Conference must be more than a celebration of a new declaration. It must be remembered as the day the world committed to transformative, inclusive, and equitable change.

Today, we should be celebrating the commitment of major emitters to drastically reduce emissions across their whole economy so that global warming does not go beyond 1.5. This is a scientific, and political imperative; a matter of justice and above all a matter of survival. My people deserve the chance to thrive just as others have. We must work together to achieve the 30x30 conservation target and ensure sustainable use of ocean resources. Change must be deliberate, nature-positive, and technically sound. Science and technical expertise must guide and support us every step of the way.

Finally, change must be fair. We all have different capacities.

Belize has shown leadership, but our resources are limited. Like other SIDS, we face unique structural challenges. We need tailored global support.

Today marks another milestone in our global mission to protect the ocean. Let it be our legacy—the moment when the world chose change, change that made a lasting difference for our planet and our people.

I thank you.

WWF Evening Reception | UN Oceans Conference

Address by Prime Minister John Briceño June 10, 2025

Distinguished partners and friends,

Thank you, Kirsten, and thank you, Carter, for being great partners with Belize.

Belize is an ocean nation, a guardian of the largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere. A vibrant ecosystem that supports over 1,400 species and provides livelihoods, food, and security for nearly half our population. This heritage is not just beautiful; but economically essential generating over a billion Belize dollars annually in ecosystem services. Our economy is directly tied to nature.

That is a statement of identity.

Our Ocean-based industries contribute up to 20 percent of our national GDP and sustain livelihoods across the country. Whether it's the fisheries industry, which in 2023 earned over 18 million dollars in lobster and conch exports alone; or maritime tourism, which accounts for 25 percent of all tourism activity; or seaweed farming, which is delivering eco-friendly income for women and youth, our economy is undeniably nature-based and people-driven.

Belize has developed a bold, people-centric conservation program. One that will transform our blue economy and secure a sustainable future for generations to come. In Belize, we believe that conservation cannot be separated from communities. Over the past three years, our government has worked together with WWF and the Enduring Earth partners to shape a bold and transformative conservation strategy: One rooted in equity, economic resilience, and the lived realities of our coastal communities. **This is conservation by the people, for the people.**

I am proud to announce that we have reached agreement to place over 12 percent of Belize's total ocean space under full protection, including 20 percent of our coral reefs. By 2026, over 30 percent of our ocean will be under formal marine protection. These are not just numbers; they represent a national commitment to long-term resilience.

Equally critical is our commitment to sustainable fisheries which are important to our fishing communities, the lifeblood of our coastal economy. We are undertaking comprehensive, science-based assessments to better understand our fish stocks and marine ecosystems. These will inform sweeping management reforms, including stronger regulations, co-management models, and value-added approaches that reduce pressure on species while increasing returns for fishers. But protection without investment is insufficient.

That's why Belize is also proud to be a pioneer in homegrown, innovative financing solutions. Charting a new course by leveraging creative financial mechanisms grounded in the very value of nature. We are building on the success of our landmark Blue Bonds agreement, which demonstrated to the world that climate and debt solutions can go hand in hand. We are taking that success further. Belize has committed to securing an $80 million sustainable financing package over 10 years, dedicated to ensuring that our marine protected areas and fisheries are not only preserved but thrive in perpetuity. This is conservation with financial durability, built to last, designed to empower our people, and anchored in the natural wealth that defines our country.

In addition to Carter and WWF, I want to recognize some of our invaluable partners who are supporting these conservation milestones. Special thanks to the Bezos Earth Fund, the Global Environment Facility, and other public and private sector allies who are helping us finalize this deal. In the future, we also hope to include the Green Climate Fund in this effort.

Belize has demonstrated that small countries can lead big change. We are proving that ambitious, nature-based solutions designed and financed by us, can work. And we invite you, our partners, to stand with us. Help us deliver a legacy of thriving oceans and thriving communities. Join us as we finalize this transformational conservation deal by year's end. Our success is not just Belize's success. It is proof that innovative, equitable, nature-based solutions can and must work at scale. We invite partners those here tonight, and those watching globally to join us. Be part of a legacy where thriving oceans support thriving communities.

This is our decade of action.

And in Belize, we are proving that ambition, when rooted in nature and powered by people, knows no bounds.

Thank you.

Grant ceremony

MAFSE, IDB, and Ministry of Finance Commence Support Sustainable and Inclusive Belize Program (SAIB)

June 12, 2025 - As part of the grant component under the Sustainable and Inclusive Belize (SAIB) Program, MAFSE has commenced the first disbursement of nearly BZD $1.5 million to 549 farmers, including 119 women. These farmers, having met the program's selection criteria, will each receive an initial payment of BZD $2,000 to procure agricultural equipment and inputs that align with sustainable and climate-smart practices.

Today, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE), in collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Central Execution Unit (CEU) of the Ministry of Finance, held a brief symbolic ceremony to show appreciation and recognition to Belize's hardworking farmers. Farmers representative of each district were at the ceremony representing the 549 who will receive the aid.

The individual small farmers are to benefit from the sustainable and inclusive project program funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. This project, was by IDB and the Government of Belize on February 21st, 2023. It will be executed by the Central Executing Unit under the ministry of Finance.

The general objective of this project is to improve and promote sustainable livelihoods in the agriculture sector. It is designed with one central goal: To empower small farmers by providing them with the resources that they need to strive and promote sustainability across agriculture practices. This program is about creating a more resilient agriculture sector that can meet the challenges of today, while ensuring that the future generation of farmers in Belize have the tools to succeed. There is a project manager and six extension officers, one in each district who has a specific role of assisting potential applicants under the component one and two subcomponents Component number one being the direct support for individual farmers, farmer groups, and MSMEs. So, component one and two being environmentally sustainable and climate resilient farming system, along with a sustainable and inclusive agri-food markets. So, component one will provide technical assistance with gender and socioculture approach and will provide for two to three agriculture cycles. Extension officers provide technical assistance and assisting farmers in the laboration of their farm plans, a road map to improve the farm organization, and management to achieve profitability and sustainable goals.

Once farmers have demonstrated the proper use of this first disbursement, a second payment of the same amount will be issued. Additionally, all selected farmers will benefit from ongoing training and capacity building throughout the remaining two years of the project.

In addressing the many challenges facing the agriculture sector such as the spread of infectious pests and diseases including citrus greening, fusarium in sugarcane, and screw worms in livestock the Ministry emphasizes the need for aggressive, simultaneous, and comprehensive action.

Future phases of the project will expand support to an additional 1,000 farmers, who will also each receive BZD $4,000, along with assistance to 20 producer groups and 40 MSMEs in the agriculture sector bringing the total project investment to approximately BZD $5 million.

Belize-Taiwan Launch Phase 2 for Micro-Entrepreneurs Project Celebrating Economic Empowerment Milestone

Continued from page2

Affairs; Her Excellency Lily Li-Wen Hsu, Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Belize; and Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs. In their remarks, speakers emphasized the value of international cooperation and the transformative impact of investing in people.

A total of fifty-two participants successfully completed Phase 1 of the project and received certificates in recognition of their achievements. A testimonial delivered by Ms. Xiomara Patt, a project beneficiary from Corozal, highlighted the tangible ways in which participants' lives have improved.

In her remarks, Minister Garcia-Ramirez reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to empowering communities through strategic partnerships and targeted social investment. "This project is about more than income. It's about independence, dignity, and unlocking the potential that already exists within our people," she said.

The launch of Phase II will build on the achievements of the initial phase by expanding outreach to additional districts and enhancing the scope and depth of training and services offered to aspiring entrepreneurs.

The Ministry extends its sincere gratitude to the Government and people of Taiwan for their continued partnership and remains confident in the transformative outcomes Phase 2 will achieve. (release)

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES:

Notice is hereby given that **Noel Velasquez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"N & L Shop"** located in San Felipe Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Sandra L. Moran** is applying for a **Beer Liquor License** to be operated at **"L & W Mini Shop & Deli"** located in San Felipe Village, Orange Walk District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xing Juan Zhu** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at **"Anna's Restaurant"** located at # 70 G.P.HWY., Santa Elena Town, Cayo District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

ST. LUKE HOSPITAL
Caring From The Heart

Vacancy at St Luke Hospital

Full time position for Radiologist

Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree in Ultrasound or Imaging Studies
- 5 years or more of experience as specialist in active practice
- Fluent in English and Spanish

Please submit your CV (in English) and two letters of recommendations before May 30, 2025 to:

Ms. Antoinette Barrera
Administrator
St Luke Hospital
Belmopan, Belize

Email: stlukehospitalbze@gmail.com

Ministry of Economic Transformation

Global Fund Implementation Unit Clarifies the Hiring of the Financial Administrator

The Ministry of Economic Transformation (MET) wishes to address recent media coverage regarding the position of Financial Administrator within the Global Fund Implementation Unit, responsible for managing the Global Fund Cycle 7 Grant.

As the Principal Recipient (PR) of the Global Fund, MET is committed to transparency, accountability, and full compliance with both national and international standards in all aspects of its operations, particularly recruitment.

The Global Fund is a well-established international financing institution that has supported Belize's national HIV/AIDS response since 2007. In August 2024, the Ministry of Economic Development (now the Ministry of Economic Transformation) began the transition process to become the new Principal Recipient of the Global Fund. This process involved a comprehensive capacity assessment conducted by the Global Fund to ensure that all systems met the required fiduciary, programmatic, and governance standards. Full approval was granted in October 2024, at which point the recruitment process for the Global Fund Implementation Unit officially commenced.

On 4th November 2024, the position of Financial Administrator was publicly advertised in strict adherence to Government of Belize (GOB) procurement procedures and with the explicit approval of the Global Fund. Applications were screened and shortlisted based on the specifications outlined in the approved Terms of Reference. A total of four candidates were shortlisted and invited to the interview stage.

The interview panel included:

1. The Finance Officer of the former Principal Recipient (PR), National Health Insurance
2. The Finance Officer of the Ministry of Economic Development
3. A representative of The National AIDS Commission
4. A representative of The Ministry of Finance
5. A representative from the Ministry of the Public Service (MPS)
6. An external consultant/specialist

Following the interview process which took place 22nd November 2024, a standardized evaluation report was completed. The candidate with the highest overall score on technical skills and experience, Jorge Rodriguez, was recommended for the position. This recommendation was then submitted to the Ministry of Finance for review and forwarded to the Office of the Contractor General for final approval. Upon receiving the required clearances, the candidate was formally offered the position which he accepted on 31st December 2024, with his agreement of engagement thereafter dated with effect from January 1, 2025.

Importantly, at no point was the current Minister of State in the Ministry of Economic Transformation, Dr. Osmond Martinez, involved in any part of this recruitment process; he was, in fact, serving as the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Trade at the time up until March 12, 2025. It is also important to note that the Ministry of Economic Development had no involvement in the procurement process — this was conducted by an independent evaluation committee comprised of designated technical personnel and oversight bodies in accordance with approved guidelines.

The Global Fund Implementation Unit strongly encourages any media platforms and interested parties to contact our office if there are any discrepancies or questions you wish to be addressed. We are more than willing to comply with any valid information request as we believe in a process that is fair, impartial, and fully compliant with national and international standards.

We reaffirm our commitment to transparency, good governance, and the successful implementation of the Global Fund Grant in Belize. (Release)

Minister Kevin Bernard Clarifies Status Regarding ISECURITY LIMITED

June 10, 2025 – "I have noted with deep concern the post published today by 7 News Belize on their social media platform and referenced in their broadcast, suggesting that I currently have an interest in, or involvement with, ISECURITY LIMITED, and that I have avoided responding to inquiries regarding this matter.

I wish to make it unequivocally clear to the public and to the media:

- I have had NO financial interest, stake, or involvement in ISECURITY LIMITED since August 15, 2022.

- On that date, I fully and lawfully divested ALL my shares (2,500) in the company through a properly executed transfer to Mr. Ian Emmanuel Cal. This transaction was registered with the Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry (File #19086).

- Since that time, I have had NO involvement in the management, operations, or contractual dealings of ISECURITY LIMITED.

The share transfer documents are certified and publicly accessible for verification.

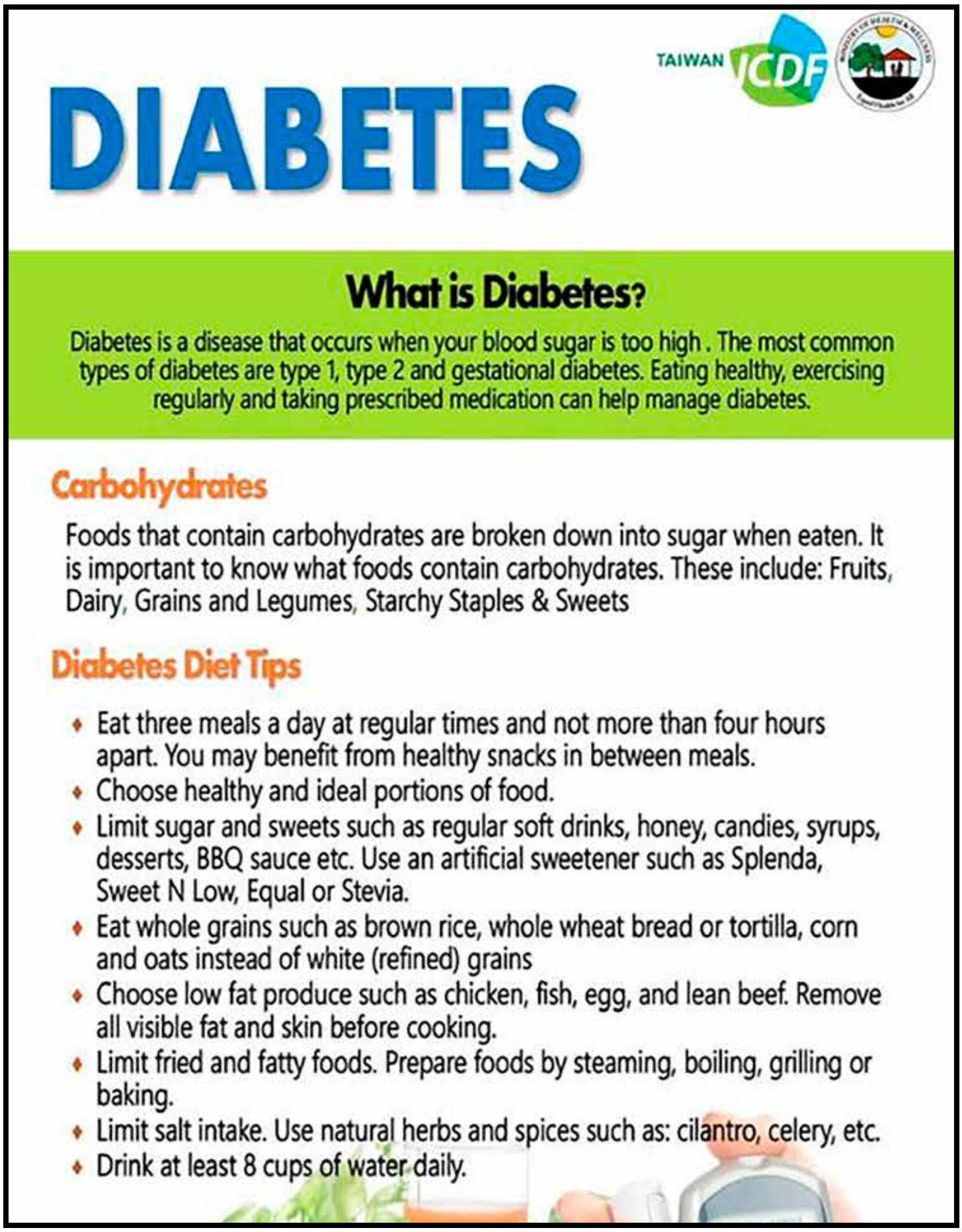
I strongly reject the insinuation by 7 News Belize that I "dodged" their interview attempts. I was forthright in my response when advised that their inquiry concerned airport security contracts in which I have no involvement.

As a Minister of Government, I hold transparency, accountability, and public trust as paramount. It is therefore important that I correct this misleading narrative, which has the potential to unjustly harm my reputation and standing.

I call upon 7 News Belize to exercise journalistic responsibility and issue a public correction and clarification to their audience.

I remain committed to serving the people of Orange Walk East and Belize with integrity and transparency."

Hon. Kevin Bernard
Minister of Health and Wellness
Area Representative, Orange Walk East


TAIWAN ICDF
DIABETES
What is Diabetes?
Diabetes is a disease that occurs when your blood sugar is too high . The most common types of diabetes are type 1, type 2 and gestational diabetes. Eating healthy, exercising regularly and taking prescribed medication can help manage diabetes.
Carbohydrates
Foods that contain carbohydrates are broken down into sugar when eaten. It is important to know what foods contain carbohydrates. These include: Fruits, Dairy, Grains and Legumes, Starchy Staples & Sweets
Diabetes Diet Tips
Eat three meals a day at regular times and not more than four hours apart. You may benefit from healthy snacks in between meals.
Choose healthy and ideal portions of food.
Limit sugar and sweets such as regular soft drinks, honey, candies, syrups, desserts, BBQ sauce etc. Use an artificial sweetener such as Splenda, Sweet N Low, Equal or Stevia.
Eat whole grains such as brown rice, whole wheat bread or tortilla, corn and oats instead of white (refined) grains
Choose low fat produce such as chicken, fish, egg, and lean beef. Remove all visible fat and skin before cooking.
Limit fried and fatty foods. Prepare foods by steaming, boiling, grilling or baking.
Limit salt intake. Use natural herbs and spices such as: cilantro, celery, etc.
Drink at least 8 cups of water daily.

Congratulations!

Belmopan Youth Taking the Lead on Climate Action!

His Worship Mayor Pablo Cawich and the Belmopan City Council, in collaboration with the Bloomberg Philanthropies, hosted round Two of the Youth Climate Action Fund Grant recipient Ceremony.

In Round 1, $100,000 was awarded to 9 grant recipients, while Round 2 distributed $200,000 to 17 grant recipients. A total of $300,000 has been granted to Belmopan youth through the Belmopan City Council in the first year of this administration, empowering youth with the resources and support to implement meaningful solutions to today's climate challenges.

During the ceremony, grant cheques were officially awarded to young, passionate climate advocates whose projects met the established criteria, showing innovation, impact and a strong commitment to creating real environmental change within their schools and communities.

Congratulations to all the recipients who are stepping up to make a difference! (post)

NOTICE

ILLEGAL ONLINE GAMING ACTIVITY AND MISINFORMATION

Belmopan, June 9, 2025 - Several online gaming websites are falsely claiming to hold an online gaming license from Belize or spreading false information about online gaming licensing in Belize. The Government of Belize(Ministry of Finance, Investment, Economic Transformation, Civil Aviation, & E-Governance) advises the general public that any operations involving online gaming activity in Belize are regulated and require licensing from the Gaming Control Board, as per the Gaming Control Act.

The Government of Belize informs the internet community and the public that Belize currently has a moratorium on issuing online gaming licenses. As a result of this moratorium, currently no online gaming companies are currently licensed to operate from Belize. Furthermore, no licenses will be issued until further notice.

All entities claiming to possess an online gaming license from Belize must immediately cease and desist, as their operations are unauthorized and illegal. The Ministry urges all internet users to refrain from engaging in business with such companies.

For more information on Belize's moratorium on online gaming licenses or regarding the online gaming licensing regime, please contact the Ministry of Investment. (reléase)

AVISO

ACTIVIDADES ILEGALES DE JUEGO EN LÍNEA Y DESINFORMACIÓ N

Belmopán, 9 de Junio, 2025 - Varios sitios web de juegos en línea afirman falsamente ser titulares de una licencia de juegos en línea de Belize o difunden información falsa sobre la concesión de licencias de juegos en línea en Belize. El Gobierno de Belize advierte al público en general que cualquier operación que implique actividad relacionada con juegos en línea dentro del territorio nacional de Belize está regulada y requiere una licencia emitida por la Junta de Control de Juegos de Azar, conforme a lo establecido en la Ley de Control de Juegos de Azar.

El Gobierno de Belize informa a la comunidad de internet y al público en general que Belize actualmente mantiene una moratoria sobre la concesión de licencias de juegos en línea. En virtud de esta moratoria, actualmente ninguna empresa de juego en línea posee una licencia para operar desde Belize. Asimismo, no se expedirán licencias hasta nuevo aviso.

Todas las entidades que afirmen poseer una licencia de juegos en línea de Belize deben cesar y desistir de inmediato, ya que sus operaciones no están autorizadas y son ilegales. El Ministerio exhorta a todos los usuarios de internet a que se abstengan de hacer negocios con dichas empresas.

Para más información sobre la moratoria de Belize respecto a las licencias de juegos en línea o sobre el régimen de licencias de juego en línea, no dude en contactar al Ministerio de Inversión.(reléase)

CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR ALL
WATER CONSUMPTION
• Maintains fluid balance in the body
• Controls appetite
• Keeps kidneys functioning properly
• Keeps you alert
Drink more water for better health
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS
Equal Health for All
PAHO
Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization

CARICOM's 60th COTED Meeting MoS Marconi Leal Represents Belize

June 11, 2025 - Hon. Marconi Leal Jr., Minister of State for Foreign Trade, led Belize's delegation at the Sixtieth Regular Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED), held on June 10-11, 2025, in Georgetown, Guyana.

The Sixtieth Meeting sought, among other things, to further the discussions on the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), with several key topics on the agenda. These included:

- Presentations on Rethinking Caribbean Tourism and the exposure of Caribbean countries to U.S. policies.
- The Free Movement of Skilled Nationals within the CARICOM region.
- Trade in Goods, with particular attention to changes in import duties on commodities important to Belize, such as grains and citrus concentrate juices.
- Approval of CARICOM Regional Standards and Codes on Hazardous Chemicals.
- Updates on the pertinent developments in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the multilateral trading system, as well as discussions on the Region's position through greater coordination and a firm defense of special and differential treatment as a permanent feature of the system.
- Certification and approval of the Partial Scope Agreement between the Government of Belize and the Republic of El Salvador, a crucial issue for Belize. Several Member States consulted with a view to provide additional support to Belize. The COTED agreed that Belize will hold bilateral meetings at the Ministerial level to give further consideration to the Agreement.

Foreign Trade Minister of State Leal was supported by Mr. Andy Sutherland, Director General for Foreign Trade, and Ms. Tricia Gideon, the Deputy Director General.

Minister Leal, H.E. Gayle Miller-Garnett, the Director General, and the Deputy Director General also met with Mr. Brian Kirton, Executive Director of the World Trade Center (WTC), and Mr. Komal R. Samaroo, Chairman of Demerara Distillers, to discuss trade opportunities presented by the new WTC in Georgetown, Guyana. As Guyana's first WTC, it aims to serve as a regional hub to boost trade in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing. Minister Leal emphasized the potential for increased investment and trade, while the Director General highlighted the WTC's role in expanding regional value chains, diversifying trade, and attracting investment. The Belize delegation expressed interest and extended an invitation to the Belize Investment Summit scheduled for September 3-5, 2025. (release)

LETTER TO THE Editor

Flowers, 55K a Year, paid by taxpayers

Question: Should the President of the Union(s) be paid for by government or by their very Union?

Dear Editor,

President for 107 Public Officers Dean Flowers is politically compromised and now maybe legally guilty. Let's leave the latter to the police. It is up to you to deny those two allegations Dean. Do not place excuses, deny them.

This 49-year-old man is definitely an abnormal person in Belize. His reported 55k salary definitely shows how he began in the ranks of the Public Service pushed or pulled in by the chief land grabber in Belize, Vega. Flowers quickly went up. Ask teachers if their increments over the years have taken them to 55… that is above the speed limit. But who knows?

Another question is how much does he report to income tax? Does he have side ventures aided by the fact he is President of the PSU?

Vega got what the people protested and voted for, he was voted out in the 'Got to Go' movement of 2020. But Flowers like MANY UDPs is still in there throwing monkey wrenches whenever he/they can. Many Public Officers have been rule-abiding obviously and are professionally respectful. This contributor will say…it the government is doing bad, it is your duty to get evidence to show this for Belize. But being petty is not helpful. In 2008-2020 many people including Ministers at the time covered up wrongdoings. Right Flowers?

BUT…let us recall the 2008-2020, if you were even slightly PUP or wore a blue-tinted shirt, you could not get a job in the government. So anyone that says they have been working in the government for 6 to 15 years, then you are or were UDP. At least you faked really well that you were UDP. This is a fact. Flowers was definitely living in cahoots with rotten UDP himself, Mr. Quitar.

Flowers, and Henry before him, are known to call unpublicized PSU elections with a hidden agenda to get themselves elected by a few. These 'slick' Union misleaders know that if elections are called in a multi-venue fashion and call for teachers and Public service member to vote democratically that a good leader will be elected. Yes, I understand the being a financial member. I will tell you, when you pay and you feel that you are not listened to, then you stop paying. So Flowers getting 107 votes means that he listens to that number and not the thousands of government Public Officers. Have you heard Flowers say that he has to get the feedback from his Union members? He listens to himself. Quickly: BNTU president got 475 votes for her presidency.

Flowers if you know of corruption in government, report it with evidence in hand. Are you afraid that the government will stop paying your salary?

Ask the people: Should the President of the Union(s) be paid for by government or by their very Union?

Yours,

Voting Belizean

PlanBelize 2.0 CURBING THE COST OF LIVING

$5 Minimum Wage soon up to $6
Free Education at 23 Schools/12,000 Students: Tuition, books, devices, uniform, meals, transport
Raising Income Tax Threshold for thousands
Price Barrack Commissary for Police, BDF, & Coast Guard
Healthy Start Meals reach 15,000 Students Daily
Back to School – NO GST Weekends
Christmas – No GST Weekends
Enforcement of price gouging laws
Issuing tickets to businesses that violate the rules
Expanded the list of controlled goods
Exemption from GST and Customs Duties on feminine hygiene products
Passing on Savings on Butane
GoB Stabilize Cost of Regular and Diesel Fuels
Public Hospitals are Free
NHI Increases Health Care Access
People's Boledo proceeds for Health care & Sports
Access to Housing and Land decreases the need for rent

PLANBELIZE IN GENERAL

- *Diversification of Crops*
- *Stable MacroEconomy*
- *Fortification of Green/Blue/ Orange Economies*
- *Changing Laws for MSME development*
- *Becoming a Magnet for Foreign Direct Investment*
- *Internationally Renowned Blue Bond*
- *Western Hemisphere Leader in GDP growth*

Debt-to-GDP Shrinking

PlanBelize 2.0

Belmopan City Council Initiative

Youth Climate Action Fund Grant recipient Ceremony

Min. Julius Espat and Team's MIDH all over Belize

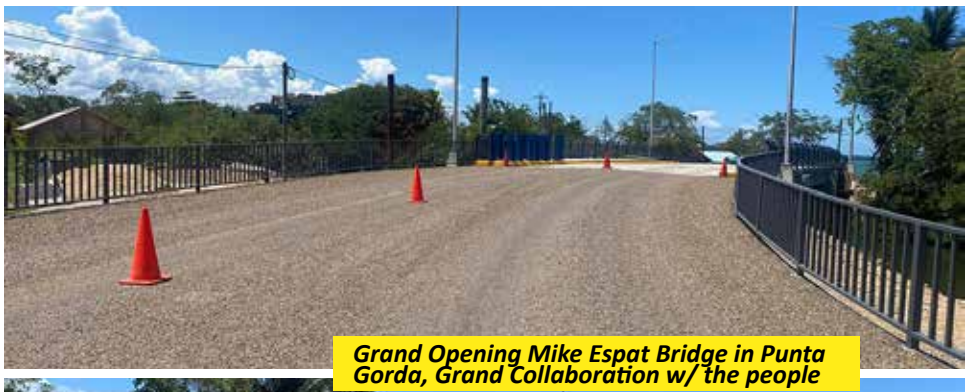
GP Highway Pedestrian Ramp

Road Shoulder work Mile 19 GP Highway

Min. Zabaneh(Dangriga), Constitution and Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs and Transportation

Transport Concerns Dialogue in Caye Caulker and San Pedro

Punta Gorda: MIDH, Toledo Area Reps Martinez and Requena, Town Council



Grand Opening Mike Espat Bridge in Punta Gorda, Grand Collaboration w/ the people

Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, leading in Corozal Bay

Hurricane/rain preparedness

Min. Oscar Requena, Education, Science, & Technology

Welcomed Ken Legins, UNICEF Belize Representative Country Visit

Hon. Martinez, Toledo East

Pump House for San Isidro's Water

Min. Jose Mai. MAFSE

Enjoying NATS 2025 along w/ thousands

Hon. Alex Balona, Cayo Central

Enjoying Village Council wins amid infrastructure work

MAKING EDUCATION WORK FOR BELIZE

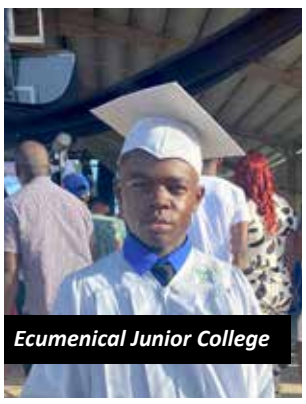
Congratulations
Class of 2025

Prime Minister Supporting Education

Pallotti High School

Muffles College

National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University


Ecumenical Junior College

Our Lady of Guadalupe RC HS

Sacred Heart College

Corazon Creek Technical HS

Agriculture and Natural Resource Institute

Bishop Martin HS

San Pedro HS

Save the Date!

Join us for Belize Procurement Week 2025!

Opening Doors to Boundless Possibilities

June 30 – July 4, 2025

Public Sector

30/ JUNE

Day 1 - Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Belize City.
(Public Sector)
Prohibitive Practices and Integrity.
Evaluation criteria for Evaluation Committees.

*This event will be invitation only

Private Sector

01/ JULY

Day 2 - Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Belize City.
(Hybrid)
Consulting services.

02/ JULY

Day 3 - Belize Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Belize City.
(Private Sector)
Goods, W and Non-Consulting Services with emphasis on Works.

04/ JULY

Day 4 - Umaya Resorts & Adventures; Placencia.
(Private Sector)
Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services with emphasis on Works.

Why Attend?

- Discover upcoming opportunities funded by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) Inter - American Development Bank (IDB); World Bank (WB) and Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI).
- Gain knowledge and skills needed to effectively participate in procurement processes.

Time on each day: 08:30hs - 17:00hs
Walk in: 08:00hs to 08:25hs.
*Registration only takes 2 minutes of your valuable time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: mofevents@mof.gov.bz

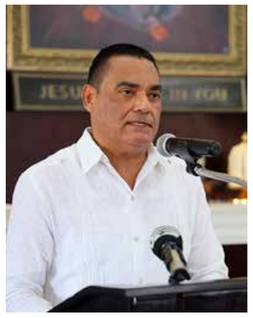
BCIE WORLD BANK GROUP IDB

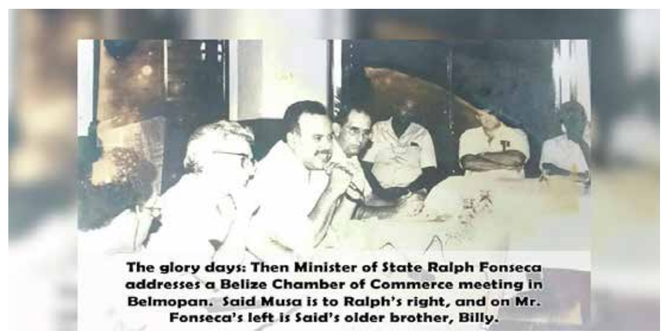
Tribute to the Hon. Ralph Henry Fonseca

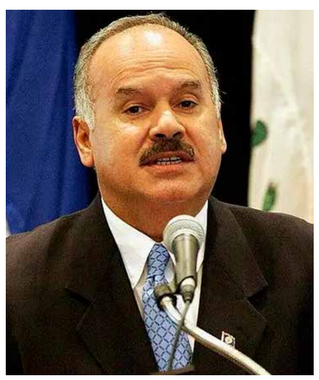
9th of August 1949 – 6th of June 2025

"Belize depends on you to stay on the right track, use your talents and skills developed here to build an even better Belize"

– Hon. Ralph Fonseca, video-commencement address to Ladyville Technical High School's Graduating Class of 2025




The glory days: Then Minister of State Ralph Fonseca addresses a Belize Chamber of Commerce meeting in Belmopan. Said Musa is to Ralph's right, and on Mr. Fonseca's left is Said's older brother, Billy.



¡Reserva la Fecha!

¡Únase a nosotros para la Semana de Contrataciones Públicas de Belice 2025!

Abriendo Puertas a Posibilidades Ilimitadas

30 de junio - 4 de julio de 2025

Sector Público

30/ DE JUNIO

Día 1 - Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Ciudad de Belize.
(Sector Público)
Prácticas prohibidas e integridad.
Criterios de evaluación para los Comités de Evaluación.

*Este evento será solo por invitación

Sector Privado

01/ DE JULIO

Día 2 - Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Ciudad de Belize.
(Híbrido)
Servicios de consultoría.

02/ DE JULIO

Día 3 - Biltmore Plaza Hotel; Ciudad de Belize.
(Sector Privado)
Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services with emphasis on Works.

04/ DE JULIO

Día 4 - Umaya Resorts & Adventures; Placencia.
(Sector Privado)
Bienes, Obras y Servicios de No-Consultoría con énfasis en Obras..

Por qué asistir?

- Descubra las próximas oportunidades financiadas por el Banco de Desarrollo del Caribe (CDB), el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID), el Banco Mundial (BM) y el Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica (BCIE).
- Adquiera conocimientos y habilidades necesarias para participar eficazmente en los procesos de contratación.

Horario de cada día: 08:30hs - 17:00hs
Hora de entrada: 08:00hs a 08:25hs.
*El registro sólo toma 2 minutos de su valioso tiempo.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN: mofevents@mof.gov.bz

BCIE WORLD BANK GROUP BID

Addressing File Disposal Concerns

Ministry of Finance, Investment, Economic Transformation, Civil Aviation & E-Governance Release

The Ministry of Economic Transformation (MET) hereby addresses the valid concerns expressed by the public regarding an incident that was publicized on Thursday evening.

The Ministry, as with any other ministry and department of government, practices the manual storage of files. Files are opened and stored daily. After an extensive amount of time, they accumulate, and we must remove them from the office and store them in a container. It is important to note that we cannot dispose or destroy of any file unless it has surpassed the amount of time (depending on the international financial institution, this could be from 5 to 7 years) and it has been verified by the appropriate auditors.

For the purpose of full transparency, it is important to clarify the following points:

1. The files that were being disposed of on Thursday have been physically verified by auditors and date back to 2010-2012. They have no relevance to any ongoing project or initiative.
2. The Resilient Rural Belize (RRB) project vehicle recorded has nothing to do with the activity that was documented yesterday. Each project implemented at the Ministry has a project management unit equipped with their own project vehicles. RRB is the only project that has vehicles with a trailer. RRB has been incredibly gracious to assist the Ministry with their vehicles and trailers as requested. Yesterday was one of those occasions that the Ministry borrowed the vehicle and trailer for their own purposes, unrelated to the work of RRB. To reiterate, yesterday's incident has nothing to do with RRB and the files that were disposed of are MET files and have no affiliation to RRB.
3. The disposal of files has been and will continue to be done – there is simply not enough space to store all past and current files. It is a common practice. However, the manner of disposal of the particular files in question is a valid concern. There was no instruction given by the Minister of State nor the Chief Executive Officer authorizing the method or location of disposal. There are procedural methods that were clearly not followed, and an internal review is underway, as per the Public Service Regulations, to determine the necessary actions to be taken.
4. The Ministry has authorized the cleaning of the area where the files were burned.

The Ministry of Economic Transformation assures the public that an event like this will not happen again, and it remains committed to acting in accordance with the sustainable and legitimate practices of the public service.

Itz'at STEAM at UN Ocean Conference 2025

We're here to connect, highlight the power of youth @soalliance , and proudly present our ocean art piece, created by the talented students of Itz'at STEAM Academy at TIDAL SHIFTS—an official off-site side event @neo_vogelart_lab celebrating ocean science, sound, art, and community action.

With the incredible support of our parents, students, and @nich.bz, we're moving from thinking globally to acting globally—advancing Challenge 10 of the UN Ocean Decade and Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water.

Join us in Nice from June 7-13, 2025 because STEAM Is where Itz'at! (Ministry of Ed post)

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given to all interested parties that the company **RENCO LIMITED** ("the Company) Registered under the Belize Companies Act 2022 commenced dissolution on the **4th** day of **June 2025**; and **Martha Celita Pohl of #768 Bella Vista, Belize City, Belize District, Belize** is the Liquidator of the Company.

MUSA & BALDERAMOS LLP
Registered Agent

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SERVICES

Cleaning and Maintenance Services - Belize Tax Service Offices

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Belize Tax Service Department (BTSD)
Country: BELIZE
Deadline: June 23rd, 2025 at 5:00 pm local Belize time

The Belize Tax Service Department is seeking expressions of interest from eligible companies for the cleaning and maintenance services at Belize City headquarters. Sanitization and cleaning of the office is essential to provide a safe and healthy environment for the BTSD personnel and the public.

Period: For a period of two (2) year (November 1, 2025 – October 31, 2027)

To maintain a clean and healthy working environment at the BTSD at Eleanor Hall Building and compound on Lake I Boulevard in Belize City, Belize.

The main responsibility of company includes but are not limited to the following:

(a) Cleaning of office spaces, cafeteria, kitchenettes, office furniture, equipment and conference facilities along with respective fixtures.
(b) Cleaning of all bathrooms and their fixtures.
(c) Cleaning of the stairways, corridors and foyer area, railings and doors.
(d) Cleaning of all internal glass walls and windows.
(e) Garbage disposal.
(f) Cleaning supplies – Belize Tax Service will be responsible for wash cloth, handtowels, toilet paper, dishwashing liquid, hand soap, bleach, disinfectant
- Your company will provide all necessary tools, cleaning materials, additional cleaning supplies, equipment/machinery, labor, transportation for the performance of services.

Qualification of the Company:

(a) Have a minimum of three (3) years working experience in Government offices.
(b) Cleaning and maintenance or similar type work experience of at least five (5) years is required.
(c) Experience working in the public and private sector in similar assignment.

Skills, Abilities and Knowledge:

- Excellent written and communication skills in English and Spanish.
- The ability to solve problems in a timely fashion.
- Organizing a work team with hands-on experience.
- Good public relations, organizational, coordination and networking skills required.
- Honesty, integrity, and respect.
- Demonstrate daily monitoring of on-site workers.
- Expression of Interest package should contain:

(i) Cover letter briefly explaining interest, experience, and competence of the Company.
(ii) Description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments. *Please provide dates, name of employing organization, types of activities performed and location of the assignment.*
(iii) List of at least two references
(iv) Proof of nationality: copy of documentation of nationality

Additional documentation required for National Consultants:

(i) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from Belize Company Registry
(ii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Social Security Board
(iii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Belize Tax Service
(iv) Copy of Current Trade License

Interested Contractors may obtain further information at the address below during the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm local Belize time, Monday to Friday.

Qualified Contractors must submit their expression of interest via e-mail to Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz no later than June 23rd, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. local Belize Time **Cleaning and Maintenance Services** in the subject header; or applicants may also submit a hardcopy at the following address (late bids will not be accepted):

Director General
Belize Tax Service Department
Eleanor Hall Building
Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City

AGGREGATE TRANSPORT VEHICLES NOTE: DOT ENFORCES MANDATORY TARPAULIN COVERING

June 11th, 2025 - The Department of Transport (DOT) reminds all owners and drivers of dump trucks and other vehicles transporting aggregate materials, such as sand, gravel, stones, or other debris, that it is legally required under Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter 230, to properly secure and cover all loads using tarpaulins or similar coverings.

Regulation 126(6) of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations states, "The driver of a vehicle who fails to use a tarpaulin or similar cover when transporting sand, gravel, stone, debris or like materials may be fined up to $500 or be imprisoned for six months or to both fine and term of imprisonment, if convicted in a court of summary jurisdiction."

This reminder follows an increase in public complaints regarding unsecured materials falling from trucks while in transit, causing damage to other vehicles, especially windshields, and creating dangerous road conditions. These incidents not only endanger public safety but also contribute to road litter and damage to public infrastructure.

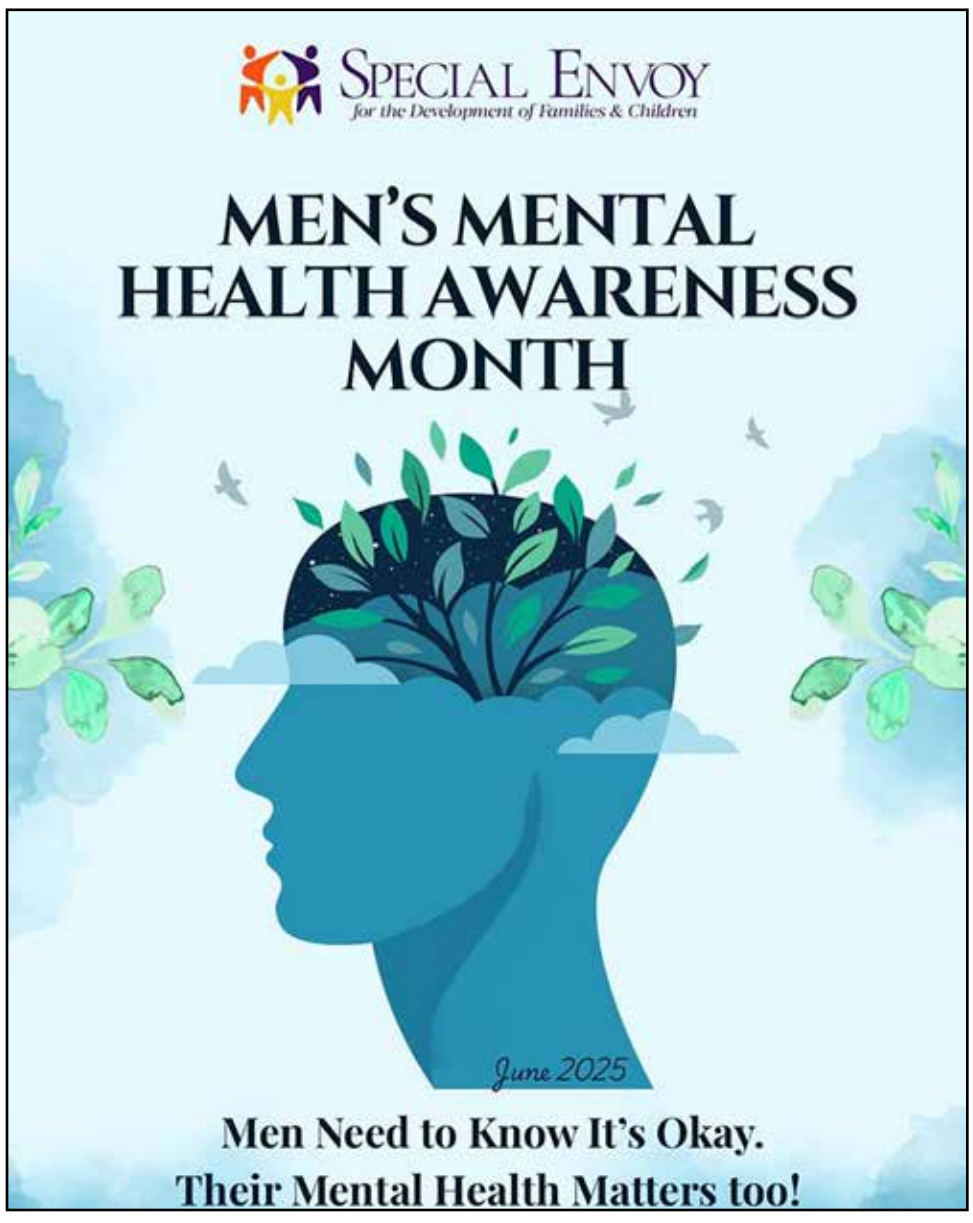
Effective immediately, the Department will intensify enforcement operations to ensure that:

1. All aggregate and debris loads are securely covered
2. No vehicle exceeds the maximum allowable gross weight
3. All drivers and operators comply with road safety laws

The DOT emphasizes that failure to properly secure loads is both unlawful and dangerous. Commercial truck operators and construction companies are urged to ensure that their drivers are fully aware of their legal responsibilities and adhere to proper safety practices.

The public is encouraged to report violations or file complaints through the Ministry of Constitution, Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs, and Transportation Hotline at 613-3104 via WhatsApp messages only.

Safety is non-negotiable. We urge all operators to adhere to these regulations to protect all road users. (release)


SPECIAL ENVOY
for the Development of Families & Children
MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH
June 2025
Men Need to Know It's Okay.
Their Mental Health Matters too!

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SERVICES

Provision of Security Services and Armored Deposits for Belize Tax Service Offices Countrywide

The Government of Belize (GoB) through the Ministry of Finance is seeking eligible Security Firms for the provision of Security Services and Armoured Deposits for the Belize Tax Service Department (BTSD). The Security Firm will be responsible for the protection of personnel, assets and premises of the Belize Tax Service country wide.

Period: For a period of two (2) year (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2027)

Services: These services will be required for the eight (8) BTSD offices countrywide at the following Locations:

Belize City: Eleanor Hall Building, Lake I Boulevard
Belmopan City: 5455 Hummingbird Highway
Dangriga Town: St. Vincent Street
San Pedro Town: #106 San Cas Building
Punta Gorda Town: #3 Clement Street
Orange Walk Town: #107 Otro Benque Road
Corozal Town: #49 Fourth Avenue
San Ignacio Town: #1 Buena Vista Street

The main responsibilities of Security Firm include but are not limited to the following:

(a) Provides unarmed and armed security officers
  I. Responsible for manning the door to control people.
  II. Responsible for protecting the building and grounds during the day.
  III. Responsible to provide an armed guard for daily deposits.
(b) Alarm monitoring service
(c) Video surveillance and monitoring
(d) Provide the following security officers for each branch listed above:
  I. Belize City main office 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  II. Belmopan City 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  III. Dangriga Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  IV. San Pedro Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  V. Punta Gorda Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  VI. Orange Walk Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  VII. Corozal Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed
  VIII. San Ignacio Town 1 armed for tax days and 1 unarmed

Qualification and Experience requirements:

The security officers shall be properly trained and licensed in accordance with the local laws to perform security services, including but not limited to

- Carrying a licensed firearm

The security officers shall be uniformed including an appropriate identification badge. The security officers must have a valid police record.

Skills, Knowledge, Abilities

- Reputable
- Reliable
- Professional
- Experience
- Trustworthy

Expression of Interest package should contain:

(i) Comprehensive proposal explaining interest, experience, and competence of the Contractor.

(ii) Description of similar assignments specifying start and end dates of assignments. *Please provide dates, name of employing organization, types of activities performed and location of the assignment.*

(iii) List of at least two references

(iv) Proof of nationality: copy of documentation of nationality

Additional documentation required for National Consultants:

(i) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from Belize Company Registry
(ii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Social Security Board
(iii) Copy of Certificate of Good Standing from the Belize Tax Service
(iv) Copy of Current Trade License
(v) Special license issued by Police Department

Cost incurred by visiting the premises and preparation of the bid are the sole responsibility of the Security Firm. The bids are to be accompanied by the documents listed above.

Interested individuals may obtain further information and full Terms of Reference at the address below during the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm local Belize time, Monday to Friday.

Qualified Contractors must submit their expression of interest via e-mail to Michelle.Longsworth@bts.gov.bz no later than June 23rd, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. local Belize Time **Provision of Security Services and Armoured Deposits for Belize Tax Service Offices Countrywide i**n the subject header; or applicants may also submit a hardcopy at the following address: (late bids will not be accepted)

Director General
Belize Tax Service Department
Eleanor Hall Building
Lake I. Boulevard, Belize City

The Official Funeral & Mass of Thanksgiving
Hon. Ralph Henry Fonseca
Official Words of Remembrance

Government of Belize
Delivered by the Hon. Francis Fonseca
Divine Mercy Catholic Church
June 10, 2025 in Belize City

Good afternoon,

And thank you all for being here. Friends, family, fellow Belizeans. On behalf of Prime Minister Briceño and the Government of Belize. I wish to extend deepest and heartfelt condolences to the family of the Hon Ralph Fonseca. His Wife Donna, His Children: Giselle, Alessandra, Riana, His Siblings: Lillian and Mark, His extended family, and all those who loved him and stood by him throughout his life. Please know that in this time of sorrow, you do not grieve alone. We share in your loss and mourn alongside you.

We come together today to celebrate a life lived with purpose, service, and love. May you find comfort in the outpouring of respect and gratitude that surrounds you today and in the enduring legacy, Ralph leaves behind; a legacy built on commitment, courage, and an endless love for his family and country. We gather to pay tribute to a man who helped to shape Belize's political and economic journey.

Ralph Fonseca leaves behind a distinct mark on our national story. A chapter defined by determination and service. Ralph's entry into public life was abrupt, but it was no coincidence. It was grounded in conviction and a firm belief in Belize's growth and economic potential. Ralph had returned to Belize following the tragic and untimely passing of his father, Rafael Fonseca, in 1978, who was then serving as Belize's Financial Secretary. It was a courtesy meeting with then-Premier George Price that sparked a fire within Ralph to make the decision to permanently return to Belize.

Price had a clear vision of Belize's future, but he needed help to execute and implement that vision. Ralph wanted to help. He did not simply talk about change; he rolled up his sleeves and worked. He believed leadership meant more than just words. Ralph did not just talk the talk; he walked the walk. With his usual confidence and determination, he turned vision into policy, ideas into programs, and plans into action. He was a firm believer in Belize's potential. He championed programs that modernized infrastructure, expanded access to health, education, and housing.

He recognized and understood more than twenty-five years ago the importance of energy independence and that the cost and availability of energy were major constraints to Belize's development. In the face of strong criticism and aggressive activism, he championed the cause of hydroelectric power.

His first attempt at electoral politics came in 1984 when he ran in Queen Square, though he lost, his resolve only grew stronger. In 1989, under the leadership of the Rt. Hon. George Price, Ralph was appointed Senator and Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance by 1993, he had become the standard bearer for the newly formed Belize Rural Central Constituency. Though the People's United Party narrowly lost the general elections in 1993, Ralph won his seat and began what would be 15 years of unwavering service as area representative for Belize Rural Central. As National Campaign Manager of the PUP leading up to the 1998 election, Ralph played a central role in building and rebranding the People's United Party around the new Party Leader, Said Musa. The result was a landslide victory for the People's United Party in 1998. From 1998 to 2008, Ralph served in the Musa Administration, holding various cabinet portfolios including budget management, investment, home affairs, housing, trade, and Economic development. In 2003, he was appointed Minister of Finance; his policy approach, which became known as growth economics, emphasized modernization through privatization and direct foreign investment. It was bold and ambitious, many times controversial, but always driven by his conviction and belief in Belize's capacity to grow and thrive. While his efforts spurred economic expansion, they also sparked debate. His critics raised legitimate concerns about debt levels and equity. Yet, no one could deny that his influence was critical in shaping Belize's economic direction during a transformative decade. He believed in taking risks and stood by his convictions, even when he faced challenges and adversity.

One of his personal passions was rural development. Ralph believed deeply that where you were born or how much you earned should never determine your future. His works brought infrastructure, housing, and hope to rural communities that were long overlooked. The tragic loss of his son Ralphie in 2007 struck him to the core. It was a sorrow that never left him, but through his pain, he continued to serve with conviction, strength, and courage. In 2008, after losing his seat, Ralph stepped away from frontline politics, yet in retirement, he remained a guiding voice within the People's United Party, offering support and advice that came from his vast years of experience.

Ralph would be the first to tell you that he was not always right; he made mistakes, his gambles as calculated as he tried to make them, did not always pay off, but he was a big thinker and a big dreamer. His critics would often say, 'Ralph think to big fuh Belize.' Ralph was often impatient and stubborn, but those whose lives he touched and who knew him best can testify to his kindness and generosity.

Ralph was tough and loyal; it was well known that he had many good friends in the UDP. A fact that made people in both the UDP and PUP uncomfortable, but that was who Ralph was; he was not petty, and for him, politics was not personal.

Often criticised, he remained focused and committed when others stepped back. Ralph stepped up and stood firm. As we reflect on Ralph Fonseca's journey, we turn to the words of 2 Timothy verses 4 – 7: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Ralph fought the good fight; he certainly finished a strong race, and most importantly, he kept the faith. He gave of himself, holy and without reservation, to his party, to his country, and to his family. We remember him not only for what he achieved but for what he stood for and how he lived.

May God grant eternal rest to his soul, and may his family find peace in love, admiration, and respect from those that now surround them. Rest In Peace, Hon Ralph Fonseca, your journey is complete, but your legacy lives on in every life you touched and in the country, you so loved and helped to build.

I thank you!

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: VEHICLE

San Ignacio, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following vehicle. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this vehicle is sold.

1. Vehicle

2014 Ford Escape

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

Assistant Project Manager

Institution:	Ministry of Finance
Country:	Belize
Project:	Digital Innovation to Boost Economic Development in Belize
Process ID:	BL-L1039 – P00038
Duration:	Two (2) years
Duty Station:	Central Executing Unit, Ministry of Finance, Belmopan
Deadline:	**June 23, 2025; 10:00 a.m.** (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize (GOB), with support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), has established a Central Executing Unit (CEU) within the Ministry of Finance as a structure to contribute to the effective delivery of the development goals outlined in Belize's Medium-Term Development Strategy, 2022-2026 (MTDS). The CEU is responsible for the coordination and implementation of various loan and grant projects and serves as the primary point of contact for all stakeholders involved in each project assigned to the CEU. This centralized unit provides an efficient and effective way to facilitate the management of the projects, ensuring that all phases are completed on time and on budget.

The Ministry of Finance invites eligible individuals to apply for the contractual position of "**Assistant Project Manager**", under the CEU. Further details, including the required application template and full Terms of Reference, can be obtained online at https://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/ or by scanning the QR Code below. Interested individuals must provide information demonstrating that they have met the required qualifications and possess relevant experience to perform the services.

Application packages should be submitted in English, before or on **June 23, 2025, by 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time). Late submissions will not be accepted.**

Submissions should be made using the required template, via email (in PDF format) or two (2) hardcopies delivered to the following address clearly indicating "Assistant Project Manager (BL-L1039)" - name of consultant:

ATTN: Procurement Specialist
Central Executing Unit
Ministry of Finance
Sir Edney Cain Building, 2nd Floor,
Belmopan City, Belize, Central America
Email: procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy - Assistant Project Manager (BL-L1039) - Your name

Hon. Ralph Henry Fonseca

Delivered by the Hon. Christopher Coye at the Divine Mercy Church, Belize City June 10, 2025

Good afternoon everyone, and thank you for being here today to celebrate the life of a truly extraordinary man—Ralph Henry Fonseca.

In politics, they say perception is reality. In life and in truth, perception is not reality. Perception is perception. Life is reality.

On August 9th, 1949, Ralph Henry Fonseca entered this world with a bang at the Belize City Hospital as thunder roared outside. Weighing a hefty 10lbs., he was the eldest son of Rafael Aloysius Fonseca, and Gertrude Brodhurst. He would become a guiding light for his siblings—David, Lillian, Andrea and Mark. He attended Holy Redeemer School, then St. John's College. At a very early age, Ralph displayed a strong work ethic, selling tickets at the Palace Theater at 12 years old until he was 16. Ralph was passionate about the sea—boating, diving, fishing. Learning as much as he could from his cousin Louis Locke, he even built his first 16ft sailing boat at the age of 14. His first professional position was at Texaco in 1968, and by the age of 18, he had already become the manager. This enabled him to purchase his first car which he called 'the Batmobile'.

In 1969, he married Yvette Vernon, mother to his only son, Ralph Jr. or Ralphie as we all affectionately knew him, who sadly preceded him in death.

Ralph's love for learning never stopped. He studied Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering in Canada, always seeking more knowledge, more tools to better himself and the world around him. After the tragic death of his father, Ralph returned home to support his mother and family. He joined Bowen & Bowen where he applied his skills in management and finance.

Ralph was always a forward thinker and a creative mind. It was not too long that with his wealth of talents he would be encouraged by the father of our nation, the Right Honourable George Price, to enter the world of politics. Ralph was an indomitable force in politics and in nation building. In politics and in life, one of Ralph's guiding philosophies was to Pray as though everything depends on God, but work as though everything depends on you. That balance between faith and action defined him. He believed deeply in personal responsibility, in work, in effort, and in making things better, not just for yourself, but for your family, your country and your people. With this deeply-held creed, he committed his life and his life's work to the people of Belize.

In 1988, Ralph married his life partner, Donna Agnes Nisbet, who dutifully cared for him and stood by his side to the end. Together they had two daughters: Giselle and Alessandra. Ralph was a devoted father to his children including his daughter Riana Zackery and a doting grandfather to his granddaughter Sienna and other grandchildren. His role as a father, husband, grandfather, mentor, and advisor was central to his identity.

Ralph was a proud Belizean patriot, a man who walked among presidents and Prime Ministers, yet never lost touch with the people. To many, he was simply a teacher, a mentor, a friend, and to his family he was a supporting rock and advisor. For me, many people thought he was my godfather. Actually, knowing him from I was a childhood friend of Ralphie, I initially saw him as my friend's father. As time passed, he became my friend, my confidante, my brother. It is his fault that I became involved in politics, finance and government. He was a Master Teacher, not just in economics, world politics and technology, though those were his fields of expertise, but in the deeper lessons of life - character, perseverance and what it means to succeed in life. He did not just teach these lessons; he lived them every single day. He believed that change and evolution are not only inevitable, but they are also essential and necessary for growth, for improvement, for becoming who we are meant to be. He challenged everyone around him to rise, to adapt and to strive for better.

Ralph didn't speak in riddles—he spoke in truth. If you came to him with a list of problems, he'd cut right through with a simple: **"So what?"**

And then,

"So what are you going to do about it?"

That was Ralph—direct, wise, and always pushing you to think beyond your limits.

He was also a great cook, famous for his legendary "Son of a B**** Stew." That stew became a symbol of how Ralph approached life—with boldness, flavor, mystery, and love. One of the most apt memories shared by a family member was this: "I once asked him for the recipe. He laughed and said, 'You'll never get that.' But later he came back to me, rested his hand on my shoulder, and said, 'You still want it?' I said, 'Hell yes.' He looked me in the eye and said, 'Lotta love… and some ingredients.'" That was Ralph. Full of mystery, full of wisdom, full of heart, full of life—even in humor, he was teaching. He never made anyone feel small. Whether you were a student, a friend, a young man finding your way, or just someone in need of direction—he made you feel like your life mattered. And that is a rare gift.

In his final years, he fought bravely against his terminal illness - a giant slowly called away. But even then, he remained strong, composed, filled with love.

To his wife Donna, to Giselle, Alessandra, Riana and his grandchildren, and all those whose lives he touched—know this: Ralph's legacy will not fade. It lives in us, in the lessons he taught, the courage he inspired, and in the Belize he believed in so deeply. In life, most people pass like shadows. But a rare few leave footprints on your soul. Ralph Fonseca wasn't just a man—he was a mountain. Unshakable. Wise. Great in the truest sense of the word.

In the words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his poem 'A Psalm of Life', "Life is real! Life is earnest! And the grave is not its goal. Dust thou art, to dust returnest, was not spoken of the soul."

Rest in peace, Mr. Ralph. We will miss you but we are comforted in knowing that you are in a better place. Your presence was a gift. Your life was a lesson. And your love—for your country, your family, and your people—was the fire that lit countless paths.

You are unforgettable, unrepeatable, and truly irreplaceable.

Thank you.

Ministry of Constitution & Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs & Transportation

Unit 2, 3rd Floor, 1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan City, Belize
Tel. 501-822-2519, 828-5002
Email : PROfficer.myst@gobmail.gov.bz

June 10, 2025

INVITATION TO QUOTE
No. 0003/25

The **Constitution & Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs & Transportation** through the Department of Transport, kindly requests quotations Biometric Cards with serial number, License Plates, and Vehicle License Stickers.

The Ministry now extends an invitation to Suppliers to tender for the below listed items:

GOODS	QUANTITY
Biometric Cards with Serial No.s	40,000
License Sticker	40,000
License Plates	10,000

Interested bidders may submit a complete set of bidding documents inclusive of Specifications to the below physical address. Bids must also include a copy **of Certificates of Good Standing** from the **Belize Companies Registry**, the **Belize Tax Service** and **the Belize Social Security Board**. (Kindly see full bidding documents at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gPq4mD3dS-EdVjMcW-W9ojMiWw-8g2YG/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=104892971743319766953&rtpof=true&sd=true)

The deadline for submission of sealed bids is Thursday **30th June 2025, at 12:00 noon,** via direct mail or hand delivered to the address indicated below:

Mr. Leon Gentle
Chief Transport Officer
Ministry of Constitution and Religious Affairs, Indigenous Affairs and Transportation
2nd Floor, William Tom Building, Mountain View Blvd.
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.
Ref: INVITATION TO QUOTE (No DOT 003/25)

Note that late submissions will be rejected

CABEI Central American Bank for Economic Integration

Invitation to Bid

Construction and Equipment of Fairweather Camp Medic Centre
N.º CABEI-WKS-009-2147/2025
One Stage-One Envelope

Date: June 13, 2025

1. **SOURCE OF RESOURCES**

The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), as part of the services it provides to its beneficiary partner countries, is granting total financing for the Procurement for the Construction and Equipment of Fairweather Camp Medic Centre, within the framework of the Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP).

2. **EXECUTING AGENCY AND CONTRACTING PARTY OF THE BIDDING PROCESS**

1.1 The Ministry of Economic Transformation (MET) is the Executing Agency of the Contracting Party, intends to use a portion of the funds of this financing to make eligible payments under the Contract for which this Invitation to Bid is being issued.

1.2 The Belize Integral Security Project is responsible for the present Procurement process for which invites eligible construction companies to submit bids for this procurement in a sealed envelope.

1.3 The Contractor will be selected and awarded in accordance with the procedures of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration as established in the Procurement Policy for Procurement of Goods, Works, Services and Consultancies with CABEI resources and its Regulations, which can be found on the following web site: https://www.bcie.org.

2. **PRESENTATION OF THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

1.1 General Objectives of the Procurement for the Construction and Equipment of Fairweather Camp Medic Centre, Toledo District.

1.2 The Contracting Party makes available to interested parties all the documentation related to this Procurement necessary for the preparation of bids.

Such information will be available free of charge:

a. Bidding package can be requested from the Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP), Project Executing Unit, 1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor, Unit # 3, Belmopan City, at: fairweathercampbdf_wks009.bisp@met.gov.bz and copy: projectcoordinator.bisp@met.gov.bz

1.3 Bids must be submitted to the address indicated below no later than July 23, 2025 no later than *10:00 a.m.* (Belize local time)

Electronic submission of bids will not be permitted. No late bids will be accepted.

Bids shall be opened publicly, in the presence of the representatives designated by the Bidder and any person who decides to attend, at the address listed below on July 23, 2025, at 10:15 a.m.

1.4 All Bids must be accompanied by a ***"Bid Maintenance Declaration ".***

The address (addresses) mentioned above is (are): Elvis Requena
Project Coordinator
Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP)
Programme Executing Unit
1904 Constitution Drive 2 nd Floor, Unit #3
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.

BELIZE Social Investment Fund

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE
BELIZE SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND (BSIF) III
CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

The **Government of Belize (GOBZ)** has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of implementing the Belize Social Investment Fund III and the Basic Needs Trust Fund Tenth Programme and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOBZ and upon approval by CDB and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOBZ shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) the Executing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services for **Social Development Officer (SDO).**

The objective of the consultancy is to strengthen the social analysis capacity of BSIF. The Consultant will be responsible for enhancing the knowledge and skills of staff in assessing the social dimensions of development, identifying community needs and resources, and designing and implementing projects. The SDO will also conduct project appraisals, supervision, and monitoring, and will serve as a resource person for the BSIF in conducting social and institutional appraisals. The duration of the assignment is expected to be a period of two (2) years, extendable by mutual agreement in accordance with prevailing Belize legislation as well as results of his/her performance appraisal.

Further details can be found in the Terms of Reference, which can be obtained from Address 1 below or can be found as an attachment to this REOI.

BSIF now invites interested eligible individual consultants to submit Expressions of Interest indicating qualifications and experience required to provide these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

(a) the persons are citizens or bona fide residents of an eligible country; and

(b) in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or bona fide resident of an eligible country.

Eligible countries are member countries of CDB. Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January 2021), as published on CDB's website.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to qualifications, experience on similar assignments and responses to interview questions.

All information must be submitted in **English.** Further information may be obtained from the first address below between **8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (Belize Time) hours Monday to Friday.**

The Expressions of Interest must be received electronically at the **first address** (BSIF) below (submissions@sifbelize.org and copied to angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org) no later than **Friday, 20th June 2025 at 4:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)**. An electronic copy of the EOI must be simultaneously emailed to CDB at the **second addresses** below. The subject line of the email containing each submission shall be clearly marked **"Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services for Social Development Officer for BSIF".**

Following the assessment of submissions, the most technically capable and appropriately experienced applicant will be invited to negotiate a contract to provide the consultancy services. BSIF reserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not engaging the services of any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

Addresses:

1. Senior Procurement Officer
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C
4253 Hummingbird Highway
Belmopan
BELIZE
Tel. (501) 822-0239; Fax. (501) 822-0279
Email: submissions@sifbelize.org
cc: angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org

2. Caribbean Development Bank
Email: procurement@caribank.org
cc: omar.bispat@caribank.org

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

COROZAL DISTRICT											
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Chan Chen	Chairpersons				589	435		73.85	0	12
		HALL, Eliazar Ernesto	Chairperson	175				40.23			
		MURRAY, Steve Ernest	Chairperson	260	Elected			59.77			
		Members					2577			1	7
		BRICENO, Solany Licelly	Member	178				6.91			
		CHI, Jose Armando	Member	187				7.26			
		CHI, Rosita Elvira	Member	169				6.56			
		DZUL, Rossicely Suheidy	Member	177				6.87			
		ESPINOZA, Edwardo Orlando	Member	182				7.06			
		WILLIAMS, Rosalba	Member	173				6.71			
		BALAM, Anastacia Celestina	Member	254	Elected			9.86			
		COWO, Martin Diego	Member	248	Elected			9.62			
		ESPINOZA GARRIDO, Elfidio Israel	Member	245	Elected			9.51			
		HALL, Leonardo Jose	Member	251	Elected			9.74			
		MENA, Virgilio Abram	Member	253	Elected			9.82			
		MURRAY, Alberto Jorge	Member	260	Elected			10.09			
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	San Narciso	Chairpersons				1842	1113		60.42	1	25
		ACOSTA, Idelfonso Jesus	Chairperson	691	Elected			62.08			
		EK, Edwin Iradiel "Tatauate"	Chairperson	422				37.92			
		Members					6673			6	15
		CAMPOS, Ameli Miriam	Member	704	Elected			10.55			
		CAWICH, Francisco H.	Member	702	Elected			10.52			
		CHAN, Luis	Member	676	Elected			10.13			
		CHAN, Ruby Yasminy	Member	703	Elected			10.53			
		NOVELO, Gabriel	Member	703	Elected			10.53			
		TUN, Ariadne Rosalie	Member	704	Elected			10.55			
		CAMPOS, Irisela L.	Member	412				6.17			
		MESH, Ariannie M.	Member	419				6.28			
		NOVELO, Noryen M.	Member	420				6.29			
		PATT, Venancio	Member	408				6.11			
		PECH, Anairi Yasmin	Member	416				6.23			
		PECH, Edgar I.	Member	406				6.08			
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	San Victor	Chairpersons				696	561		80.60	0	6
		ALFARO, Rigoberto	Chairperson	286	Elected			50.98			
		GUTIERREZ, Jose Rodolfo	Chairperson	275				49.02			
		Members					3318			3	7
		CASTILLO, Ana Delia Edilma	Member	278	Elected			8.38			
		CAWICH, Abner Joel	Member	282	Elected			8.50			
		COB, Ronnel Rafael	Member	281	Elected			8.47			
		COBB, Elvis Orlando	Member	284	Elected			8.56			
		UCAN, Francis Yanira Damaris	Member	279	Elected			8.41			
		VASQUEZ, Saul Alonzo	Member	282	Elected			8.50			
		CHAN, Ana Lourdes	Member	272				8.20			
		GUTIERREZ, Francisco	Member	275				8.29			
		MENA, Floricel Odalis	Member	269				8.11			
		PANTIN, Nelsie Minnei	Member	272				8.20			
		PEREZ, Higinia	Member	273				8.23			
		URBINA, Senaida Maximiliana	Member	271				8.17			
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 25

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 24

6/8/2025	Chunox	Chairpersons				1110	842		75.86	5	15
		PATT, Rafael Demetrio	Chairperson	445	Elected			52.85			
		SANTOYA, Eliomar Eliezer	Chairperson	397				47.15			
		Members					4893			5	22
		AGUAYO, Norvan Elder	Member	436	Elected			8.91			
		BABB, Zeidi Veborlin	Member	428	Elected			8.75			
		PATT, Icelie Adaly	Member	426	Elected			8.71			
		REYES, Jose Loise	Member	433	Elected			8.85			
		SANTOYA, Adriel Josue	Member	429	Elected			8.77			
		TUN, Isai Elis	Member	402				8.22			
		CATZIM, Rogelio Fermin	Member	376				7.68			
		GONZALEZ, Abder Yasir	Member	388				7.93			
		GONZALEZ, Erminio Abdias	Member	388				7.93			
		ROMERO, Arick Ahrei	Member	410	Elected			8.38			
		SANTOYA, Yadira Loreli	Member	388				7.93			
		TUN, Abigael Ricardo	Member	389				7.95			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Progresso	Chairpersons				826	479		57.99	0	12
		CRUZ, Nigel Raumir	Chairperson	310	Elected			64.72			
		KEN, Josue Lizandro	Chairperson	169				35.28			
		Members					2694			0	26
		CASTILLO, Genaro Jair	Member	302	Elected			11.21			
		COWO, Erwin Aldair	Member	301	Elected			11.17			
		GUERRA Keilie Solanie	Member	294	Elected			10.91			
		PEREZ, Corazon Britney Margarita	Member	289	Elected			10.73			
		TZUL, Natasha Janel	Member	293	Elected			10.88			
		VILLAS, Hernan Franco	Member	282	Elected			10.47			
		HEREDIA, Itzel Luisita	Member	161				5.98			
		KEN, Janine Joanelle	Member	158				5.86			
		OSORIO, Reginaldo Amparo	Member	158				5.86			
		OSORIO, Sayani Justina	Member	151				5.61			
		SANTOYA, Leannine Jamili	Member	151				5.61			
		VALDEZ, Davis Wilberto	Member	154				5.72			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Sarteneja	Chairpersons				1275	856		67.14	4	24
		GONGORA, Elgar Casimino	Chairperson	123				14.37			
		GUERRERO, Paulino Lucio	Chairperson	564	Elected			65.89			
		MURRILLO, Melvan Felicito	Chairperson	169				19.74			
		Members					4357			2	35
		CRUZ, Darnel Josimar	Member	552	Elected			12.67			
		CRUZ, Odair Jose	Member	548	Elected			12.58			
		GONGORA, Eli Dion	Member	556	Elected			12.76			
		ORDONEZ, Kyron Gonzalo	Member	541	Elected			12.42			
		PEREZ, Diogenes Ramon	Member	519	Elected			11.91			
		VERDE, Clint Chandler	Member	466	Elected			10.70			
		CANO, Edward Alexis	Member	189				4.34			
		CANTUN, Jacob Samuel	Member	185				4.25			
		FLORES, Gini Niri	Member	173				3.97			
		RIVERO, Eldair Herman	Member	216				4.96			
		TAMAI, Ada Betty	Member	208				4.77			
		TEPAZ, Emmanuel Apolonio	Member	204				4.68			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 26

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 25

6/8/2025	Patchakan	Chairpersons				1122	747		66.58	3	20
		MEDINA, Wilfrido Roger	Chairperson	495	Elected			66.27			
		VALLEJOS, Rodell Isai	Chairperson	252				33.73			
		Members					4387			2	
		COBB, Yaniri Tanisha	Member	474	Elected			10.80			
		CUMUL, Noemi Lorena	Member	482	Elected			10.99			
		ESCALANTE, Adelita Consuelo	Member	475	Elected			10.83			
		MEDINA, Mariano	Member	474	Elected			10.80			
		ROSADO, Sayra Marcella	Member	481	Elected			10.96			
		VILLAMIL, Miguel Angel	Member	461	Elected			10.51			
		MEDINA, Moises	Member	247				5.63			
		MEZA, Esner Candido	Member	260				5.93			
		MEZA, Romaier Rangel	Member	259				5.90			
		TZUL, Solia Iselie	Member	252				5.74			
		TZUL, Vildo Venustiano	Member	260				5.93			
		WATSON, Rita Margarie	Member	262				5.97			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Xaibe	Chairpersons				1071	657		61.34	1	13
		NICHOLSON, Angel Desiderio	Chairperson	256				38.96			
		TREJO, Eliseo	Chairperson	401	Elected			61.04			
		Members					3842			2	8
		BE, Victor	Member	246				6.40			
		CAMAL, Arhenis Gilberto	Member	254				6.61			
		MEZA, Dafny Alexa	Member	239				6.22			
		NOVELO, Alberta Romalda	Member	253				6.59			
		TREJO, Narciso	Member	250				6.51			
		VILLAMIL, Eleazar Edair	Member	235				6.12			
		MAI, Laura Rosely	Member	407	Elected			10.59			
		MEZA, Roberto Guadencio	Member	404	Elected			10.52			
		NOH, Edgar Rodrigo	Member	399	Elected			10.39			
		NOVELO, Antonio	Member	392	Elected			10.20			
		NOVELO, Gladis Amarides	Member	389	Elected			10.12			
		PINEDA, Edilberto	Member	374	Elected			9.73			

ORANGE WALK DISTRICT

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	San Luis	Chairpersons				205	151		73.66	1	0
		CHI, Edilma Consuelo	Chairperson	57				37.75			
		HERNANDEZ, Darwin Misael	Chairperson	94	Elected			62.25			
		Members					903			1	0
		CHI, Deily Carleni	Member	54				5.98			
		CHI, Erwin	Member	54				5.98			
		CHI, Luis Benito	Member	53				5.87			
		MARIN, Amira Yessenia	Member	54				5.98			
		MARIN, Santiago Aldair	Member	54				5.98			
		TELLO, Greidy Jamilet	Member	54				5.98			
		CANDELARIO, Jose Joaquin	Member	96	Elected			10.63			
		FLORES, Jesandri Navni	Member	97	Elected			10.74			
		MARIN, Delsie Yadira	Member	96	Elected			10.63			
		MARIN, Javier Romaldo	Member	98	Elected			10.85			
		MARIN, Loreny Graciela	Member	97	Elected			10.74			
		MARIN, Seidy Seleny	Member	96	Elected			10.63			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 27

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 26

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Douglas	Chairpersons				436	270		61.93	2	6
		MENDEZ, Ariani Antonia	Chairperson	83				30.74			
		MENDEZ, Marcelo	Chairperson	187	Elected			69.26			
		Members					1567			1	4
		CARDENAS, Leeana Feliciana	Member	92				5.87			
		MASARIEGO, Manuel	Member	91				5.81			
		MENDEZ, Ivet	Member	93				5.93			
		MENDEZ, Yisroel Yasser	Member	91				5.81			
		OSORIO, Dannica Maria	Member	90				5.74			
		TUYUB, Bartolo Bernardo	Member	94				6.00			
		MENDEZ, Guadalupe	Member	169	Elected			10.78			
		MENDEZ, Nasario	Member	175	Elected			11.17			
		MILLIAN, Aura Lizeth	Member	175	Elected			11.17			
		OSORIO, Kevin Teodoro	Member	168	Elected			10.72			
		OSORIO, Zeidy Melany	Member	167	Elected			10.66			
		SANTANA, Elsie Stephanie	Member	162	Elected			10.34			
6/8/2025	San Pablo	Chairpersons				751	535		71.24	0	17
		MARIN, Amir Aaron	Chairperson	266				49.72			
		SANKER, Daisy Aurora	Chairperson	269	Elected			50.28			
		Members					3148			1	18
		ALAMILLA, Bianchi Bryloski	Member	262				8.32			
		MARTINEZ, Asalia Maribell	Member	259				8.23			
		MARTINEZ, Blanca Victoria	Member	265	Elected			8.42			
		MENDEZ, Yasmin Grisel	Member	267	Elected			8.48			
		MENENSEZ, Lidio Estevan	Member	260				8.26			
		TECK, Kelly Esther	Member	257				8.16			
		ARCURIO, Erie Fenton	Member	263	Elected			8.35			
		BRICENO, Roger Alfonso	Member	257				8.16			
		COSME, Erwin Herman	Member	266	Elected			8.45			
		MARIN, Jose Luis	Member	265	Elected			8.42			
		MENDEZ, Lorilei Mercie	Member	265	Elected			8.42			
		NOVELO, Yoryanni Loanni	Member	262				8.32			
6/8/2025	San Jose	Chairpersons				2247	1246		55.45	4	32
		CHUC, Navil Edair	Chairperson	636	Elected			51.04			
		CRUZ, Josue Rojelio	Chairperson	610				48.96			
		Members					7398			8	28
		CHUCK, Joshua Mikael	Member	645	Elected			8.72			
		GONZALEZ, Neidy Leoneli	Member	653	Elected			8.83			
		HERRERA, Ariannie Sulemi Chuc	Member	646	Elected			8.73			
		MAI, Juan De Dios Romelio	Member	655	Elected			8.85			
		RODRIGUEZ, Lorena	Member	643	Elected			8.69			
		WICAB, Neyzer Jahir	Member	627	Elected			8.48			
		CRUZ, Reynaldo Santiago	Member	587				7.93			
		ESCALANTE, Alberto Valentin	Member	594				8.03			
		GONZALEZ, Merari Noemi	Member	587				7.93			
		NOVELO, David Samuel	Member	587				7.93			
		PATT, Eduardo Jr.	Member	591				7.99			
		PECH, Noel Junior	Member	583				7.88			

Continued on page 28

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 27

6/8/2025	San Jose Palmar	Chairpersons				1054	524		49.72	0	18
		NOVELO, Delmi Cardina	Chairperson	194				37.02			
		TZUL, Tiffany Viviany	Chairperson	330	Elected			62.98			
		Members					2936			3	14
		AUGUST, Karina	Member	152				5.18			
		CANCHE, Princella Carlita	Member	149				5.07			
		CANTUN, Angel Santos	Member	167				5.69			
		DOMINGUEZ, Ramiro Ismael	Member	152				5.18			
		MENDEZ, Irlanda	Member	150				5.11			
		CANTUN, Xenia Alexandra	Member	369	Elected			12.57			
		CARILLO, Jesus Felipe	Member	364	Elected			12.40			
		CHI, Kenny Alvaro	Member	361	Elected			12.30			
		HILL, Michael Edwin	Member	366	Elected			12.47			
		PEREZ, Kevin Jordy	Member	358	Elected			12.19			
		SANTOS, Deisy Shenae	Member	348	Elected			11.85			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Santa Martha	Chairpersons				350	257		73.43	0	3
		ACUNA, Patricio	Chairperson	146	Elected			56.81			
		YANES, Adan	Chairperson	111				43.19			
		Members					1480			0	9
		ALVAREZ, Axel Ernesto	Member	149	Elected			10.07			
		CANTUN, Angel Alfonzo	Member	154	Elected			10.41			
		CATUN, Dianie Mariely	Member	154	Elected			10.41			
		LOPEZ, Akeem Tafari	Member	148	Elected			10.00			
		VELASCO, Saul Brandon	Member	148	Elected			10.00			
		VELAZCO, Orbil V	Member	134	Elected			9.05			
		CHANEK, Rudy Enrique	Member	95				6.42			
		DONIS, Esvin	Member	104				7.03			
		DONIS, Fermin	Member	101				6.82			
		ESQUIVEL, Anavela	Member	98				6.62			
		LOPEZ, Oscar Tinito	Member	101				6.82			
		MORALES, Jose Samuel	Member	94				6.35			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Tower Hill	Chairpersons				190	141		74.21	2	6
		PATT, Angela Elvira	Chairperson	62				43.97			
		QUIJANO, Roque Celso	Chairperson	79	Elected			56.03			
		Members					815			4	12
		ALONZO, Osbaldo Baldomar	Member	66				8.10			
		ARMSTRONG, Yesi Briselda	Member	62				7.61			
		CHULIN, Adolfo Angel	Member	70	Elected			8.59			
		ESQUIVEL, Mary Otto	Member	64				7.85			
		ROBERTS, Arlo Jessy Jason	Member	61				7.48			
		VASQUEZ, Rubicela Rubiana	Member	58				7.12			
		AKE, Adrian Concepcion	Member	74	Elected			9.08			
		AKE, Omar Bernaldo	Member	71	Elected			8.71			
		EAGAN, Herbert Owen	Member	74	Elected			9.08			
		MCCULLOCH, Titus Anthony	Member	74	Elected			9.08			
		ROBERTS, Zair Giovanni	Member	73	Elected			8.96			
		RUIZ, Luis Alfredo	Member	68				8.34			

BELIZE DISTRICT

Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	St. Ann's	Chairperson									
		MEJIA, Mario Ernesto	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		BAINTON, Nataly Odeth	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		DAWSON ESCALANTE, Andrea A.	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		ENRIQUEZ, Janine Sherie	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		GONZALEZ, Angelita Nolita	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		GRAHAM, Shaneeca Monique	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MEJIA, Marion Marvis	Member	Uncontested	Elected						

Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 29

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 28

6/8/2025	St. George's Caye	Chairperson									
		SEARLE, John Watt	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		ALVAREZ, Bernardino Simplicio	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		DE SHIELD, Christopher Lloyd	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		DOLEY, Molly Ann Stark	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MASTRY,Christy Rebecca	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MENZIES, Kay Laura	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		YOUNG, Lynn Raymond	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Corozalito	Chairperson									
		GILHARRY, Arlenie Sarina	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		CIENFUEGOS, Abner Joshua	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		CONORQUIE, Marlian Cristal	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		GABOUREL, Joel Gavin	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		VIAMILL, Jiovanni Jordi	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		VILLANUEVA, Alberto Manuelito	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		VILLANUEVA, Gustavo Ronnie	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Bomba	Chairperson									
		ORELLANA, Reynaldo Antonio	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		MEDINA, Keila Jozie	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		RAMIREZ, Ernesto Edwardo Joseph	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		RAMIREZ, Glenford Ernesto	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		RAMIREZ LAZO, Ana Marilu	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		SANCHEZ, Amilcar Abisai	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		ZETINA, Gilalberto Adrian	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Burrell Boom	Chairpersons				928	175		18.86	0	7
		CASSANOVA, Avalee Ardeth	Chairperson	147	Elected			84.00			
		STUART, Daren Martin	Chairperson	28				16.00			
		Members					922			0	7
		ESCOBAR, Alrick Albert	Member	157	Elected			17.03			
		KELLY, Indira Alexandra	Member	159	Elected			17.25			
		PINELO, Giovanni Alfonso	Member	141	Elected			15.29			
		QUIROS, Mason Alexander	Member	136	Elected			14.75			
		REQUENA, Arneek Calcie	Member	146	Elected			15.84			
		REYES, Pamela Patricia	Member	148	Elected			16.05			
		MOLINO, Nicholas Carlos	Member	35				3.80			
6/8/2025	Gales Point	Chairpersons				154	65		42.21	0	3
		MOORE, Nadine Nicole	Chairperson	48	Elected			73.85			
		MYERS, Liston Anthony	Chairperson	17				26.15			

CAYO DISTRICT

Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	San Marcos	Chairperson									
		MALDONADO, Francisco	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		CATALAN, Eusebio	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		DUBON, Salomon	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MALDONADO, Arintown Jefferson	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MALDONADO, Arnaldo Omar	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		MORALEZ, Melvin Omar	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		QUINTANILLA, Fredy Antonio	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 30

ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 29

6/8/2025	Cristo Rey	Chairperson				618	387		62.62	0	3
		GUERRA, Wilmer Eaton	Chairperson	194	Elected			50.13			
		KU, Christian Felix	Chairperson	193				49.87			
		Members					2187			0	7
		CASTANAZA, Jose Antonio	Member	179				8.18			
		CHI, Julieta Aurelia	Member	182				8.32			
		HARRIS, Demery Samuel	Member	177				8.09			
		MOE, Levi Caleb	Member	174				7.96			
		ORTEGA, Claromy	Member	189	Elected			8.64			
		TZIB, Patrick Edgar	Member	188	Elected			8.60			
		AUGUST, Renfred Martin	Member	187	Elected			8.55			
		JONES, Sheny Melany	Member	181				8.28			
		MONTOLBAN, Jovanni Fernnando	Member	183	Elected			8.37			
		TUT, Jose Alberto	Member	187	Elected			8.55			
		TUT, Victor Andy	Member	187	Elected			8.55			
		TZIB, Maximo Abelino	Member	173				7.91			

TOLEDO DISTRICT

Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	San Marcos	Chairperson									
		MUKU, Alberto	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		ACK, Venancio Jacob	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		BA, Maria	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		CHOC, Macario	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		RASH, Venancio	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		RAX, Juan Choc	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		TECK, Donald Franklin	Member	Uncontested	Elected						

Nomination Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Na Luum Ca	Chairperson									
		SHO, German	Chairperson	Uncontested	Elected						
		Members									
		OH, Bernalda Luisa	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		SHO, Arnoldo Nolberto	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		SHO, Carlos	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		SHO, Melania	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		SHO, Severiano	Member	Uncontested	Elected						
		WEWE, Andola Amileba	Member	Uncontested	Elected						

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Cattle Landing	Chairperson				159	89		55.97	0	7
		BOWDEN, Earl Donald	Chairperson	53	Elected			59.55			
		GALVEZ, Curlette Jenine	Chairperson	36				40.45			
		Members					537			0	2
		BARDALEZ, Carlos	Member	51	Elected			9.50			
		BARDALEZ, Lorena Ellen	Member	48				8.94			
		ECHEVERRIA Jr., Roberto Amancio	Member	60	Elected			11.17			
		GENTLE, Zuelenny Vidalee	Member	49	Elected			9.12			
		MARTINEZ, Meridette Ann	Member	49	Elected			9.12			
		VAIREZ Jr., Mathias Roberto	Member	59	Elected			10.99			
		ALFORD, Jack Martin	Member	55	Elected			10.24			
		BOWDEN, Carlota Carin	Member	28				5.21			
		JACOBS, Anastacia	Member	31				5.77			
		PRATT, Elbert Jerome	Member	34				6.33			
		ROMERO, Estephani Orlanda	Member	39				7.26			
		WILLIAMS, Oliver Calvin	Member	34				6.33			

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes

Continued on page 31

Ladyville Technical High School Commencement Address 2025

Delivered by Hon. Ralph Fonseca

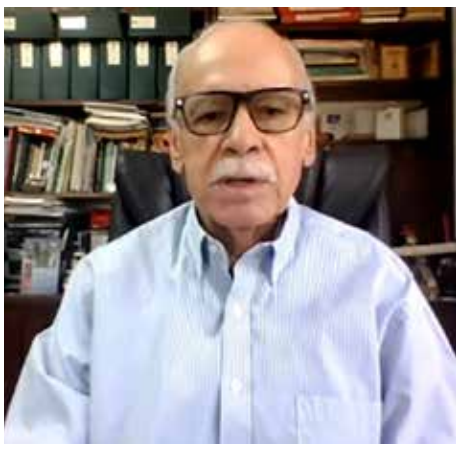
Via Video

Good day, Distinguished Guests, Proud Parents, Madam President, and Directors of the LTHS Board, Principal Mrs. Westby, Lecturers, Prefects, and Students,

Please allow me first to thank you all for the honor and privilege of addressing you on reaching this important milestone. And let me hurry to say that it is with deep regards, but it is unavoidable that it be done by this means.

Congratulations to the entire Institution of Ladyville Technical High School in having evolved into a major platform for multitask education and a major part of the development of our beloved Belize. Special congrats on leading the way in Belize with the science of robotics. Twenty-five years ago, the genesis of this august institution was in San Francisco, when PM Musa and myself on our way to Taiwan, with whom we had recently developed diplomatic relations, met a Belizean, Mr. Eugene Hernandez, who gave us a quick tour of an institute of learn which he managed. There, the seed was planted for the concept of a center dedicated to specific employment education.

We immediately put it on our agenda for the meetings in Taiwan. As you all



know, today we have ITVETs, CET, and, now, LTHS, all grown out of that change encounter. LTHS was also an opportunity grasped in 1999, when in cabinet the discussion arose as to the future of the BDF Compound that was being abandoned for other headquarters. Cabinet was quickly reminded that Ladyville was the most populated part of Belize Rural Central, and of course, the BRC campaign slogan was then "BRC is the center of civilization." No one disputed that, so it provided a perfect opportunity to convince cabinet that the time had come for a learn center, which would accomplish the highest aspiration of any serious government in a developing country.

The specialized education of Belizeans who would be ready to help moving Belize forward by being prepared to take up good jobs or start their own businesses. So, thanks to cabinet in 1999, and a determined BRC Team, we quickly took over the BDF compound and started to pull resources from every corner to get LTHS off the ground. Of course, all of our work would not have produced a true educational platform were it not for Principal Westby and her cadre of educated and experienced lecturers who have stayed on track, persevered, and have converted an abandoned military barracks into one of Belize's primary centers of learning. And not just an academic center of learning, but one that develops skills in young Belizeans sought after by major employers.

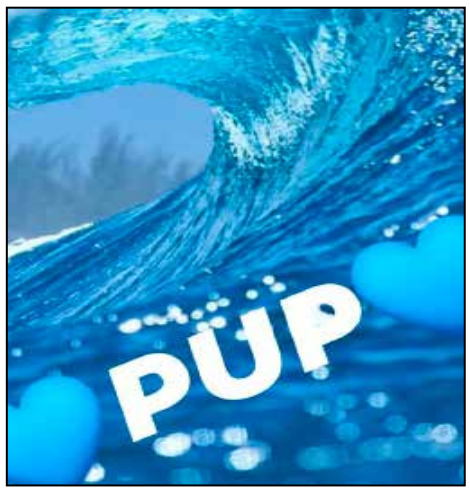
Although, while in government, we worked hard to develop many roads, utilities, and health infrastructures. There is no task more important that has been accomplished than that of relevant education opportunities to take up jobs and truly build a proud and modern Belize.

Students, please take advantage of our time, of your time here, to not only develop your chosen skills but also yourself, discipline, and respect for each other. So that you may leave here and spread your development of mind and body. Show the world that you can make your dreams come true. We all know that we cannot wait for good luck; it is only when opportunity meets preparation that we achieve objectives. With hard work and your training, nothing is impossible, as the slang goes, "Slow feet don't eat." Show the world that your education here has made you impervious to reckless peer pressure, as the well-known billionaire Warren Buffett said to one of his young investors in an annual shareholders meeting, "To stay on the right path of life, find someone more disciplined than yourself and go there."

Congratulations to you all for making those of us who had this dream become a reality. After twenty-five years of constantly evolving, Belize is proud of you. After leaving here, remember the father of the nation, Rt. Hon. George Price's words, "Creation must continue!"

Belize depends on you to stay on the right track, use your talents and skills developed here to build an even better Belize.

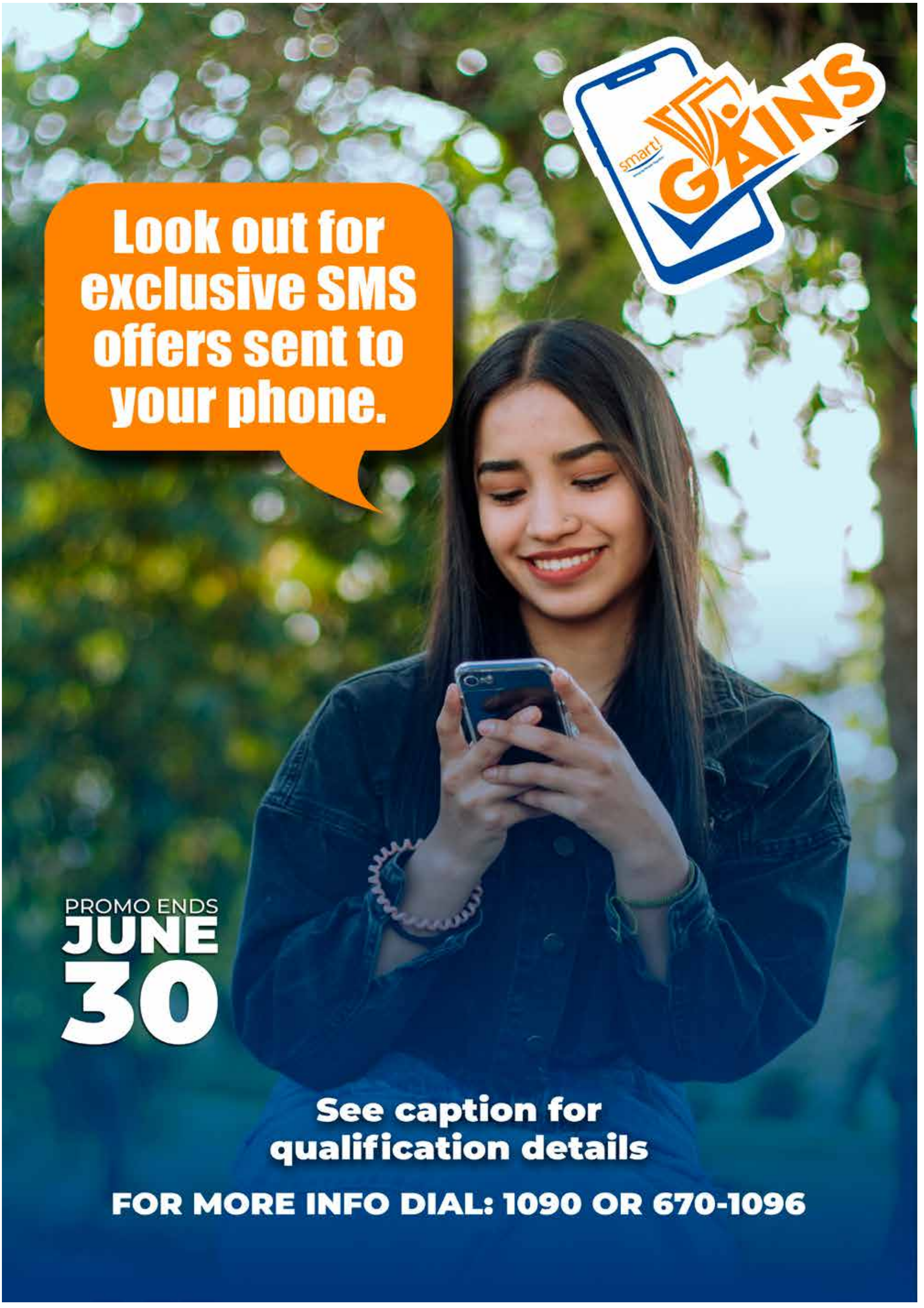
I thank you all!



ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE COUNCILS ELECTIONS
OFFICIAL RESULTS - 8TH JUNE 2025

Continued from page 30

Election Date	Village	Candidates Name	Position	No. of Votes Received	Remarks	# of Registered Electors	Total Votes Polled	% of Votes Polled	% of Voter Turnout	Spoilt Votes	Rejected Votes
6/8/2025	Eldridgeville	Chairperson				279	207		74.19	0	7
		MANGAR, Evert Eley	Chairperson	94				45.41			
		MARTINEZ, Gisel	Chairperson	113	Elected			54.59			
		Members					1194			0	4
		BO, Joaquin	Member	89				7.45			
		BRICENO, Brithney Maude	Member	94				7.87			
		LOPEZ, Briana Therassa	Member	97				8.12			
		MANGAR, Aston David	Member	90				7.54			
		MANGAR, Lupita Sabina	Member	89				7.45			
		PAAU, Abraham	Member	87				7.29			
		GUY, Owen Christopher	Member	106	Elected			8.88			
		HERON, Rafael Hector	Member	106	Elected			8.88			
		MANGAR, Daniel Adolfo	Member	109	Elected			9.13			
		MANGAR, Elida Erica	Member	111	Elected			9.30			
		POP, Teresa Juliana	Member	108	Elected			9.05			
		UK, Marcos	Member	108	Elected			9.05			
6/8/2025	Forest Home	Chairperson				259	174		67.18	0	2
		COLEMAN, Charmini Renee	Chairperson	100	Elected			57.47			
		PALMA, Abib Ismael	Chairperson	74				42.53			
		Members					1020			2	3
		BO, Victoriano	Member	99	Elected			9.71			
		BORLAND, Clarinda Ramona	Member	100	Elected			9.80			
		JOHNSTON, Harold Vincent	Member	97	Elected			9.51			
		RAMCLAM, Shirma Suzette	Member	101	Elected			9.90			
		SANCHEZ, Reyna Avigail	Member	100	Elected			9.80			
		WATTERS, Nemesio Alexander	Member	92	Elected			9.02			
		BO, Mariano	Member	69				6.76			
		COLEMAN, Belinda Ann	Member	73				7.16			
		COLEMAN, Doran Lee	Member	73				7.16			
		GILLETT, Denise Daniella	Member	70				6.86			
		ROMERO, Keniesha Roxanne	Member	74				7.25			
		WILLIAMS, Sharline Marie	Member	72				7.06			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